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ARRANGEMENTS for the Narragansett Conference of the Library Association are now fairly completed, and as the program given elsewhere indicates, this meeting promises to be varied and interesting to a marked degree. The plans for the post-conference cruise have been abandoned, as the responses received were insufficient to guarantee its success, and it is probable that no single general post-conference will be undertaken, but that there will be a number of alternative visits or tours arranged to places of interest along the New England coast. The general program, it will be seen, centers mainly on the work of the larger city public library—its relation to the city as a tax-supported institution; its adaptation to the needs of distinct classes among the population—blind people, working men, and foreigners; and the construction of buildings for its branches and its main collection. Aside from professional subjects, the program is stronger than usual in addresses of a general or literary character, by speakers of reputation in other than library circles; while the long list of section, round table, and allied meetings should give ample representation to every special interest found within the profession.

IN view of the terrible calamity in San Francisco last month, it has been announced that the National Educational Association, which was to have held its annual meeting in that city in July, has cancelled all its plans and will hold no general conference this year. Should this course be followed, there seems no good reason why the American Library Association should not suggest to the N. E. A. the possibility of holding the annual meeting of its Library Department in connection with the Library Association meeting at Narragansett. A joint meeting of the two great national bodies of teachers and librarians would probably be impracticable, on account of its unwieldiness and the difficulty of obtaining adequate accommodations; but a meeting of the Library Department could probably be satisfactorily arranged, giving opportunity for a

fuller and more general discussion of library and school questions from the standpoint of teachers and of librarians than has been possible under the ordinary conditions of N. E. A. conventions. Whether this plan proves practicable or not, information regarding the A. L. A. conference should at least be brought specifically to the attention of the N. E. A. and its members, in the hope that those teachers interested in library work may avail themselves of the opportunities it offers, as a substitute for the N. E. A. meeting.

IRREPARABLE among the losses caused by the San Francisco calamity was the destruction of the libraries of the city. The summary given elsewhere schedules the bare facts, so far as these are available, but hardly indicates the full extent of the loss. For it is not only a blow to the library interests of San Francisco and the Pacific coast, but to scholarship and historical research throughout the country. In rough figures over 700,000 volumes have been destroyed, and a conservative estimate of the money loss is stated as three million dollars; this, of course, without consideration of the unique historic value of much of the material. Foremost probably in historical and bibliographical importance was the great Sutro collection, of which the latest reports indicate that a portion escaped destruction, and the library of the Pioneers' Society, with its original records of the days of the Argonauts and forty-niners. The Mercantile Library collection also was of great value, for in the early years of its existence it bought generously and with discrimination, and it contained many rare and valuable works that can never be replaced. Gone, too, is the Public Library's fine collection of California newspaper files, running back through the last sixty years, and its rich collection of pamphlets relating to the early history of the state. The Mechanics' Institute Library of about 120,000 volumes, particularly strong in scientific works, the law libraries of the city and the supreme court, the important specialized collection of the Academy of Sciences, the

small but notable collection of the Bohemian Club, and a long list of minor association libraries and private collections, round out the record of destruction. Fortunately the great Bancroft collection escaped the fire and is intact. Its transfer to the shelter of the state university was begun as soon as local conditions permitted, and by this time it is established in permanent quarters, safe from the dangers of fire or vandalism.

HOPEFULNESS is the keynote of all the messages that have come from San Francisco librarians. The Mechanics-Mercantile "will rebuild at once"; the Public Library plans to reopen immediately; and on all sides there is evident determination and high courage. The Public Library reports a nucleus of 30,000 books remaining out of a former 160,000 as a basis for reconstruction. These are made up of the contents of four branches, ranging from 3000 to 9000 volumes each, 3000 from the delivery stations, and several thousand in the possession of borrowers. The main library is absolutely lost, not even a page or part of a book remaining in the ruins of the city hall. With this working collection, with \$75,000 insurance probably available, with the sites remaining, and with an authorized bond issue of a million dollars for a new building, the library authorities face the future with confidence. Nevertheless help will surely be welcome in the great task of restoration and replacement. From the library of the state university there has already come an appeal for duplicates of books lost, and the Public Library, Mechanics-Mercantile, Academy of Sciences, and other libraries destroyed or injured will undoubtedly receive with appreciation sympathy expressed in gifts of books. There should be no need to appeal to the strong bond of fellowship that unites all American librarians; to indicate the need is sufficient to insure widespread response, and we are sure that all librarians will make special effort to send substantial gifts of books and other material to their brethren of the Pacific coast as soon as they are assured that such gifts are desired and can be handled without inconvenience. It should be remembered, too, that enforced reduction in the staffs of the crippled libraries is almost inevitable, and this

should be borne in mind by Eastern librarians in filling vacancies or in making new appointments.

THE death of Dr. Richard Garnett removes one of the librarians of the old order, who in his library spirit and devotion prophesied and inspired the new generation. Nothing could be more delightful than the welcome which any seeker after knowledge received from that kindly scholar during the many years when he sat at the center of the great reading room of the British Museum, his wealth of knowledge always cheerfully at the disposal of any one who asked. His perpetual smile, especially in connection with his curious manner of speech, seemed to those who knew him little possibly a muscular habit rather than a real expression of interest; but it was real, and really represented the man's sweetness of nature and wonderful catholicity of interest alike in persons and in subjects of knowledge. Henry Bradshaw's warm heart and great cordial hand were known chiefly to those scholars of the University of Cambridge, young and old, who had reason to come in personal relation with his tender and beautiful character; but Richard Garnett was set in the most public of places, where all men and women could turn to him, and to none was he ever other than courteous, helpful, kindly in all things, large or little. His long service in the reading room earned for him later the first place in the English library world, as keeper of printed books in the Museum, and the promotion rejoiced greatly all those who knew the library and the man. In his later years, especially after his retirement, he lent his name perhaps to more enterprises than he could readily supervise or co-operate in, despite his enormous powers of detail work; but in yielding to this temptation, before which so many men of our time give way, he was persuaded quite as much by good nature, by the desire to oblige those who sought his name, as by hope of pecuniary gain. To have known him was a blessing and an inspiration, and it is scarcely possible to put on paper for those to read who did not know him any adequate expression of the affection and respect with which his name will be remembered.

## BOOKS AND LIFE\*

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THE aspect of the subject to which I would call your attention is the often observed fact of the extent to which modern life in all of its phases is becoming based upon books. I say *in all of its phases*, for we are concerned with the present extent of this relation between books and life and with its rapid increase, rather than with its existence. Ever since the beginnings of human society men have based their actions on the teachings of experience. Part of these teachings each individual has directly derived from his environment, and he has supplemented and enlarged them by means of those coming from the remembered experience of others, often belonging to an older generation. Later in history there were added those teachings derived from books—from the recorded experience of others. With that enlargement of the basis of the human action which comes from the remembered experience of others we, as librarians, have nothing to do, and, indeed, there is little to say about it now which could not have been said with equal propriety, one, two, or twenty centuries ago. With books the case is different. The last century, the last generation, the last decade—each has seen a transfer of the basis of action from the oral to the printed word, which could be paralleled by no other period of equal length in the history of civilization. The story of this transfer from talk to print, from rule of thumb to textbook, from tradition to school, from practice to science, is long and intensely interesting. I can touch only a few phases of it.

First consider the lengthening of the school period for children. I do not think it is possible accurately to compare the present length of this period with that which existed a century or a half century ago; nor would such a comparison greatly interest us. It is enough for our purpose to know that years have been added to the school life of many thousands of the youth of all classes. As a single illustration, consider the effect of the high school, whose development into a large and popular

institution, an institution affecting great masses of the people, belongs almost wholly to the period within the life of the generation now on the stage. A half century ago the public high school was almost unknown and the private academy reached very few persons. Only a generation ago the number of students in secondary schools was hardly one-tenth of the present number. The attendance on institutions of secondary grade has thus increased five times as rapidly as the population. Within the past fifteen years the attendance in the high schools of Milwaukee has more than trebled, while only a little more than fifty per cent. has been added to the population of the city. In Racine almost exactly the same ratio holds, and so for many other cities of the United States, the increase being least marked in New England cities, and greatest in the cities of the West.

The formative influence of the high school youth are far more extensively and exclusively books than were those of his father or grandfather, who probably began to learn his trade, or his business, at about the age when his boy enters the high school, and who therefore, during the period of adolescence, received his training from action rather than from study, from oral rather than from printed experience.

One may find to-day in the writings of many teachers jeremiads over the shortness of the average school life of children. I would not contradict their statistics and would join in their regrets, but the fact remains that the most striking phenomenon in the life of the children of the past thirty years is the extent to which their training has been committed to the use of books and the rapid growth of the use of books as the period has advanced. Few as the school years of children now are, those of any older generation have been fewer. This aspect of the matter is the one that is of interest to us, and the school life of the present, instead of arousing our regrets by its brevity, may well call out our astonishment by its length, and demand the use of our best wits to see the changes which have been caused in the life of the present and to forecast those which in the

\* President's address before Wisconsin Library Association, Feb. 21, 1906. The A. L. A. Publishing Board will supply reprints at 5c. apiece, or \$3 per 100.

future will flow from this fundamental change in education.

One of these correlated changes is already apparent—the extension of the period of book learning for many thousands of persons into the college and university course.

In 1850 the total attendance on colleges in the United States was about ten thousand. Half a century later, when the population of the country had increased about three and one-third times, the college students had increased in a tenfold ratio, or more than three times as rapidly as the population. Even more significant is the growth in the number of college students in more recent years. Since 1889 the number has more than doubled, thus continuing in the latest years a ratio of growth with reference to population quite as great as in earlier years.

An equally significant, and quite as conspicuous change, is seen in the growth of technical education. Thirty years ago, when I came to Wisconsin, the university was graduating from two or three to half a dozen engineers yearly, and these could not all find occupation in this commonwealth, with a population then of more than a million people. Now a hundred graduates go out at Commencement, while the population of the state has little more than doubled, and while other engineering schools of high rank have multiplied all around it.

Nowadays the man of books, rather than the man of tradition, is directing the work of the world. In the copper mines of the north the old-fashioned mine captain, who received his profession and its traditions from his father, is disappearing and has almost vanished. His place is taken by the graduate of a mining school, who interprets what he sees, not by the light of the experience of his elders, communicated to him orally, but by the far clearer light of the collective experience of men embodied in books. When the capitalist now desires to explore for new iron mines he employs not the old-fashioned prospector, but puts into the field a party of young men often fresh from the geological laboratory. Thus science, organized knowledge, book learning, is driving out with increasing rapidity the picturesque figures of past times—times wholly past, though only just behind us in years. That "bookish theoretic," so detested by Iago, is apparently firmly in control

of affairs and has displaced its predecessors and rivals.

In countless other ways the same fact is shown. Half a century ago a youth who desired to become a lawyer or a doctor entered the office of a practitioner and learned his profession by practice and experience. Now he goes to the school of law or medicine and gains his entrance to his chosen calling by the way of books and laboratories. Even commerce and trade, in which the rules of practical experience seem most firmly entrenched, are shifting their bases to books, and schools of commerce and trade schools are springing up on every hand to give youth a broader foundation of knowledge than can be gained from practice. Still more significant are the facts shown by the enormous development of agricultural experiment stations, farmers' bulletins and farmers' institutes. Agriculture, that calling which of all others is most ancient and most conservative, is rapidly changing its basis from tradition to books. Perhaps I ought not to say "most conservative," for there is one calling which may better deserve the title—that of the domestic industries practiced by women. Yet even here a beginning of the transfer, although a small one, has been made by schools of domestic science.

While this beginning is but small, and while the traditional professions of women have not yet been greatly modified by books, the life of no class of the community has been more profoundly affected by this general change than has that of women. With the passing away of home industries and with the great increase of wealth which the past century, or half century, has seen, have come vastly increased opportunities to women for leisure, for release from domestic duties, and for the prolongation of school life. The statistics of high schools and colleges sufficiently show the use which they are making of this leisure. Other facts are equally obvious and significant as showing the transfer of the basis of woman's life from domestic experience to books. The woman's club, I suppose, may be said fairly to take the place of the sewing circle of our mothers and grandmothers. The contrast even in the name is significant, as marking the transfer of interest from the circle of domestic experience to the wider domain of the recorded life of the world, to the realm of books.



Thus at whatever point we examine the life of the present, we find it basing itself on books, both for action and for enjoyment, and that in an ever-increasing degree. This truth is peculiarly evident to you as librarians, since the facts of your own profession and the rapid growth of libraries and library work afford one of the latest phases of this general movement.

From 1875 to 1896 the number of libraries in the United States just about doubled, increasing steadily, and adding, during this period, about 2000 libraries, or a little less than 100 per year. From 1896 to 1900, 1350 libraries were added, or about 450 per year. From 1900 to 1903, 1500 libraries were founded, or 500 per year. In the past ten years the number of libraries must have doubled; a ratio of growth at least four times that of the population. . . .

It is plain that the adjustment of the library to this movement of men's minds towards books is the most important practical question for all of us. Questions of management, of administration, of methods are all of secondary importance beside this one — if, indeed, they may be called even secondary. For this change of base is a revolutionary affair, not a mere matter of readjustment of detail, and it is no easy task for the library to find itself in such a movement. Libraries are so small a part of the national intellectual life, so small, in the mass, for example, in comparison to the schools, so small in the single institution in comparison to the great universities, that their proper influence and work are easily overlooked. There is sometimes danger that they may be swept into currents guided by other forces rather than find opportunity freely to contribute their own share to the movement.

Let us then turn to the more practical side of the question, and ask how the library is adjusting itself, in this changed relation of men, where it has best succeeded, and where it still has most to do. Let us ask where experience seems to promise successful solution of problems, and where the problems are in that stage in which only doubtful success can be expected from experiments, and final solution still lies far before us.

The library began as a place to keep books, permitting their use by the public, but often under such restrictions as seem to indicate that this service was granted "grudgingly and

of necessity." Books and the higher life were in some obscure way correlated in the mind of the librarian, and he too often seemed to feel that these were treasures not to be shared by the many. The first change which came, therefore, as the library was swept into the general intellectual current of the time, was the removal of restrictions on the use of books and their replacement by devices intended to encourage and extend that use. A second step, and a much more revolutionary one, has been to teach the community directly the uses of books, and thus not merely to afford easy conditions for the use of books on the part of those who want them, but to add a positive force which will compel the books to go out into the community, there to perform their present service and to create a demand for an increased service in the future.

This change marks a fundamental departure of the library from its old basis, and one which will affect it greatly, for good and perhaps for ill. The movement toward freedom of administration was really concerned with small matters, and left unaltered the central plan and purpose of the library. But with the assumption of direct educational work for children, for women, for men, the library has entered upon a new epoch in its evolution. It has taken up duties which are certain greatly to increase, if successfully performed, duties whose performance will demand greatly enlarged resources — of space and of money, of books and of working staff. And what is of even greater importance, the purpose, the point of view, of those who control the library, and the temper of the administration, will change, and ought to change, under the pressure of these new duties.

This positive and educational library work falls into two main types — that for children, and that for adults — both men and women. It is still in a tentative condition, in a formative and experimental period. The results are still so few and recent that they do not admit any exact formulation. They permit only general and suggestive statement.

Work for children is, in some ways, the easiest educational attempt of the library, since it runs parallel to the work of the schools, and those for whom the work is done are easily reached and easily guided. Its function is, of course, in part to supplement the school. It would be, however, a great mis-

fortune if it were looked upon merely as a supplement to the school, as a means of providing reading which the school ought to buy, but cannot afford. Its purpose is rather to begin in childhood, both for pleasure and for profit, a voluntary association with books which lie wholly outside of the school program. It aims to begin the early formation of the habit of reading as distinguished from study—a habit which will be permanent, instead of ending with the period of formal instruction. It recognizes the fact that school life must soon end, and that when the end comes, the important feature of the child's intellectual condition is not so much the amount he has learned as the temper and habit of his mind toward books. Has he merely learned certain truths from books or are books open to him? It is of fundamental importance to the community that the second alternative be secured. The school libraries and children's librarians are, therefore, not to feel that their duty is to supplement the school. That duty lies on a different, and, in a way, a higher plane, in a more spiritual region. It is their part to make the child a citizen of the world of books, and to naturalize him so thoroughly that he will always remain a citizen. Thus only can he share fully, not only in the high and permanent pleasures that books afford, but also in that great movement of life toward books which marks our time.

From remarks which I have heard on various occasions, I believe this extension of library service and library duties to youth has often been misunderstood. Work with school children, whether done by the library force as part of their duties, or by assistants especially engaged, has seemed to many to be a somewhat unnecessary extension of the library—something of a luxury. These added duties have often been assumed by the libraries under special pleas, and for reasons temporary in character. But in that wider view which I am trying to present, the truth is recognized that the library is a permanent storehouse of books for the community, to which the citizen of every class and age must repair for knowledge not only interesting and useful, but necessary to the conduct of life. We recognize also that while the training of the schools soon ceases for every individual, the service of the library extends

throughout life. We assert also that the possibilities of this service must be taught to the members of the community from childhood, and that the efficiency of the books will largely depend on the efficiency with which this teaching is done.

Especial care must be taken with children and youth toward the end of the ordinary school periods—in the upper grades and in the high school. Here it is that the transition to independent reading must come. The children's room must not be merely an appendage to the kindergarten and primary school, but the library must supply to youth of all ages not only books, but inspiration in reading. The questions which arise in work for children are many and often perplexing, but, if these general principles are accepted, they are, after all, questions of detail rather than of principle.

The library's influence over women has been the greatest in extent and productive of the largest results; so much so that, in the opinion of many critics of the public library, that institution is in great danger of becoming "feminized." I shall not attempt to discuss so large a subject as that indicated by this fearful word, but it may not be unprofitable to touch upon the causes which have given the work of the library for women at once so great an extension and so great a success, as well as some obvious limitations. I should place first among the causes, both for the success and the limitation of this influence, the recent acquisition by women of large opportunities for the intellectual life, their natural conservatism, and their greatly increased leisure as compared with men. That women read books, and read them in enormous numbers, is granted, indeed asserted. That they read seriously I have heard questioned and have always wondered at the doubt. It seems to me rather that they never read in any way except seriously. How many women—reading women, I mean—can put away an unfinished book without a certain sense of guilt? How many can "browse about" in a library, and enjoy doing so? How many really like to read a dictionary or encyclopædia without ulterior designs upon an article for the women's club, or, at least, without wanting to know something? These are all tests—unconscious, but none the less excellent—of real readers, of those to whom

books are live and intimate friends. While I have no statistics at hand, I fear that many women most devoted to libraries would fail to reach this standard. The field of the intellectual life has been widely opened to women so recently that they still feel a certain sense of duty along with the privilege which is granted them in entering it, rather than a complete sense of being at home there. The conservatism of women helps this tendency to read seriously and for general purposes. The traditional use of books as a means of culture appeals to their more conservative mind as it does not to men. They are more easily induced to read for reading's sake—they are willing to read the books one ought to read. They are moved by considerations of mental improvement independent of any result beyond the improvement itself. The library as a library attracts them. Then, too, the amount of their reading and its character is modified by the fact that women are so much more limited than men in means to pass their leisure. Jerome K. Jerome (if correctly reported by newspapers) recently pointed out that much so-called reading is no more an intellectual process than is smoking a cigar, and that often we go to books just as to the cigar, to pass the time and to prevent the intrusion of disagreeable thoughts. Of course this is, and ought to be, wholly true, and since with us the cigar is a masculine privilege, the woman must take to books as the man takes to smoking, and even to drinking. Speaking seriously, the library is to many women a relief from care—the only distraction from the monotony of routine. It is a cheap and easy thing to sneer at this use of books, but we who believe in the friendship of books know that here lies one of the greatest blessings they can give, as it is one of the greatest blessings of true friendship. Nor do we wonder that the uncultivated, or the half-cultivated, often choose their book friends from a class not greatly above their own.

On the other hand, women have hardly begun to use books on lines along which we are seeking to get men to read—in directions connected with their trade or profession. Domestic industries, so far as they are in the hands of women, are still almost wholly dependent upon tradition. They are not ex-

posed to competition. Failure or inefficiency does not put the proprietor out of business. Their results are not measured in dollars and cents. In a word, the whole line of motives which is forcing masculine industries over to the basis of books is lacking in the chief feminine occupations. We are now seeing only the feeble beginnings of the attempt thus to transfer them from tradition to science. A long time must pass, and social conditions greatly change, before the transfer is made. Thus women are not forced from general to special lines of reading, while they have greater motive for general reading than have men.

As a result, women are becoming, to a degree without example in the past, the possessors and transmitters of the life of culture. I do not believe that fewer men read good literature than formerly, but the increase in masculine readers of this type has been so much less than the increase in women readers that in comparison the number of men seems to have shrunken greatly. Of course much of this reading by women for culture is desultory and aimless, much is misdirected. But after all deductions are made, it remains true that the knowledge of books, and, indeed, the friendship of books, seems to be tending to become the possession of women rather than of men. It has always belonged to a certain class of men—not a very large part of the community—and it is still theirs; but its extension to other classes has been along female lines rather than male, and its transmission to the next generation seems only too likely to depend in a large measure upon the female line. College statistics at present show the same facts. Language, literature, and art are the chosen studies of women. Men turn rather to science, economics, or politics—subjects which, they suppose, bear directly on future plans for life. These great subjects whose main purpose in education is the uplifting of the mind, the widening of the mental horizon without direct reference to any specific line of life—these appeal far more strongly to women than to men, and their influence, in a rapidly increasing degree, will reach the next generation through the mother rather than through the father. It would be a pessimistic view which should say that modern society is coming to

depend on the mothers for the accumulation and transmission of culture, while retaining in the male line the function of accumulating and transmitting wealth, though much could be said for the thesis and a very plausible argument could be constructed for it.

If all this is true, it is inevitable that women should use libraries far more than men. It is equally inevitable that in this large use much should be trivial, much customary, much misdirected and unwise. Nature has no means of reaching success except by the rule of natural selection—the old-fashioned plan of “cut-and-try,” and this means much failure along the road of advance. We who see the work of the library from our daily experience know how much it is contributing of culture, how much of happiness, to the life of women, and through them to that of the community.

But men—why do they not use the library, say the critics, and what shall the library do to increase its use by men? You have all read the vigorous article that the *Independent* published on this subject last summer, which, with much of error, contains a good deal of truth in a stimulating form. It presents a subject which must have a somewhat larger treatment.

It ought first to be said that in this and other articles on the topic the terms *women* and *men* are by no means similarly used. The writers are not concerned about men at large—the husbands and brothers of the women who are said to visit the library—the women of comparative leisure, who are seeking information on art, literature, or ancestry, who are trying to get up a paper for the club, or who visit the library for recreation. It is the plumber, the machinist, the grocer, whose absence they deplore, and to whom they think the library ought to give help. Not only so, but it is the plumber as a plumber, rather than as a man, whose presence is desired and who is to be aided. The library, says the *Independent* in effect, ought to teach the plumber how to “plumb;” ought to furnish him with information which his boss is unable to give. But this is a new function for libraries, however useful it may be, and a function which libraries do not attempt for women. Dressmakers do not (I speak under correction, but I think I am right) expect to secure at a library a knowledge of how to fit

a difficult customer, any more than do tailors. Yet this sort of thing, we are told, the library ought to do for men; and we are told in a tone which implies that here is an obvious duty which only wilful ignorance can overlook.

It ought rather to be recognized that in undertaking this work the public library is entering a new and almost unexplored field of effort, and also that it is trying to extend its influence to classes of the community which it has not hitherto reached, and along lines of knowledge which it has never seriously attempted to follow. In such a work there must be many experiments and many failures, and the positive results will be small for a long time. . . .

The problem for the library, as regards men, is therefore twofold: 1, Can men be induced to visit the library for general purposes, to use it in ways similar to those for which women come to it? 2, How can the wage-earners and handicraftsmen be induced to visit the library and use its books for their practical advantage?

Let us first consider the general question: Can we reach the men? The women come to the libraries, say the critics, in shoals and droves, for all sorts of intellectual purposes, good and bad. You catch the children, they say, in school, when they cannot get away, and indeed are glad of relief from lessons; but the men—can we reach them and affect their lives? In reply we must say at once and frankly that no such large volume of success with men is possible as has been the case with women. The public library came to women at the precise moment when increased education disposed them to use it, and increased leisure gave them the opportunity. It fills a space in their lives which would be otherwise void. But the present time is one of decreased leisure and increased intensity of work for all classes of men. Perhaps I ought to except from this statement the wage-earner, who as eight hour laws and customs come into force will have more time for reading than the man of almost any other class in the community. This movement toward lessened hours of labor is more effective where libraries are best organized and therefore presents an opportunity for the extension of library influence, both general and special. The opportunity must be improved, yet



neither the wage-earner nor the business man will be easy to reach; neither has been among the active patrons of the library in the past. Their lives are already full, both with business and pleasure, and if the library is to reach them, it must attract them on lines which appeal to them more strongly than business or present pleasure. It must reach needs which they know and feel to be real.

I do not believe that men of the present generation will come to libraries in great numbers for the purposes that attract women. We might as well admit that they will not substitute the novel for the cigar, the printed story for the companionship of the club. They will not read good books because they ought to do so, and the number who will read them because they like to do so is unfortunately not great. Men have not thus acted since the world began, and man-like, they will not do so now, even though such conduct on their part would help our library statistics very greatly. Nor will any great number of them read in order to enlarge their basis of life, for, in spite of the greatness of the movement toward books, it affects at first hand only a few people in the community. The mass of workmen, now and always, will get their knowledge from tradition or at secondhand. It will be the unusual man who will get his ideas from books at first hand and thus improve his work and that of his fellows.

The problem is then to reach these few, and through them the community; and this brings us to the second phase of the question. I do not find that the problem has been solved; perhaps it is too recent. But libraries have been attempting its solution by various methods and with varying success.

The first and most successful attempt is that of the large libraries, like that of Pittsburgh and the Pratt Institute of Brooklyn, which maintain a technical library for the men—a library adequately housed in its own rooms and administered by a special librarian. These technical libraries for working men succeed in their aim of reaching many of the class for which they are established. They offer not merely an opportunity for reading, but that guidance in the use of books which all classes of the community need, if they are to use books for a serious purpose. They show us that success in this line of effort may

be reached if the library has an income sufficient to enable it to undertake the task on a large scale.

This condition is, however, not that of most of the libraries which are represented here. Our incomes are none too large for the work which we must necessarily do for the general public. Such libraries must ordinarily content themselves with offering to men opportunities for reading without special guidance in the use of the books. This work has been attempted in a good many of the smaller libraries. They attempt to provide masculine conditions for reading and reading material which will appeal to men. The first includes a well-furnished, comfortable room for men, where a man can come in his working clothes without feeling that he is out of place; smoking may be allowed or not—both plans are tried without great difference in apparent result. The masculine reading comprises copies of newspapers and magazines; good books of literature which can be left in the room (paper bound copies suggested); most important of all are trade journals; if possible, files of the recent volumes of these journals, selected according to the industries of each town; and the most readable and most recent reference books on similar subjects. In a word, a room is furnished and provided with reading which will appeal to the classes of men who do not ordinarily use libraries and who are not greatly interested in literature.

This plan is a good one and ought to be tried, but I believe the conditions are exceptional under which it will reach large numbers of men. Inertia and habit will keep most of them away from the library. They will see the daily papers at their wonted places of resort, and the room, necessarily lacking in much of the freedom of the club, will fail to attract very many of them. They will not form the habit of visiting it, even though they might enjoy it if the habit were formed. It must also be remembered that increasing numbers of the larger manufacturing concerns are providing their employees with reading of this kind, and thus limiting the use of the city library.

In some libraries the attempt to reach men has gone still further and has led to an inclusion of attractions which are ordinarily

regarded as outside of the work of a library. They have attempted to combine to some degree the privileges of a club with that of the public library. The Stevens Point Library has a club room, equipped with billiard tables, cards, etc., as well as with technical journals and similar books. This, the librarian reports, is very successful in attracting boys, many of whom learn to use the library. Men, however, do not come in large numbers, as they do not care to use a place frequented by boys, and in which smoking is not permitted. At Wausaukee a special room with games and where lunch is served has been established at the library as a means of furnishing a sort of club room for lumber men who come to the village, especially on Sunday, and who have no other place of resort, except the saloon. How far such methods are advisable as a part of library work is a question which will often be asked during the coming years and which only experience can answer. At present such enterprises have not gone beyond the stage of early experiment.

Summing up the result, I would frankly confess that the reports which I have received are not numerous enough for a positive judgment, yet it is my impression that where there is an income large enough to provide a special librarian and a public large enough to warrant the expense, this movement for special libraries for men is likely to succeed. It seems also to be true that where the library provides the men with opportunity for reading only, and does not furnish guidance for readers, no very large use is made of technical books and there is no greatly increased use of the library in general. How to guide the reading seems, therefore, to be the central factor in the solution of the problem.

In a small town a special librarian is impossible, for financial reasons, but there, as well as in large cities, lectures can be given which deal with practical subjects and the aid to their knowledge which the library affords. Many cities are giving such courses of lectures, notably perhaps New York, and with considerable effect on the use of the public library. I have no statistics regarding such lectures from the various cities, but undoubtedly this method offers the easiest plan for extending the use of the library in smaller cities and towns. I say the *easiest*, and it

will not be difficult to secure good lectures on literature, history, or art, but lectures on the practical subjects are much more difficult to obtain, since it is hard to secure lecturers who know more about the trades than do the craftsmen who constitute the audience.

If these movements are to succeed, they must not be attempted in an amateurish way. They must be well planned and well executed—planned and executed with careful reference to the wants of the men of the community. Above all, they must be persistently carried out with full vigor year after year, even though results are apparently small. Their purpose must be steadfastly maintained and the methods of execution continually readjusted, as success or failure indicates. It is no light or easy thing to change the habits of half the adult members of the community—to cultivate the reading habit in those who have reached maturity without acquiring it—and the work which the library proposes for itself involves such a task.

If men are to be reached at all it must be on a business basis, not on that of occasional effort. Nor must the missionary spirit prevail, for men, as a rule, do not wish to be reformed or to be helped. They must find in the library a place which appeals to their sense of comfort and which gives them things that they want, or, like other sensible people, they will not use it.

One word in closing this topic, and that in emphasis of what I have already said. It is easier to keep a boy reading as he grows up than to catch him again as a man after the library has lost him. Take a lesson from the church. The boy who graduates from Sunday-school rarely returns for a post-graduate course. In the wise administration for the work for children and youth lies the main hope not of reaching, but keeping men in the library.

But it should be definitely understood that this enlargement of library work which the times are forcing upon us means increasing expense, more room, more books—which must be more frequently renewed—and a larger library staff. It means the attempt to do efficiently several lines of intellectual work for the public instead of purveying literature for those who desire it. This new work the library can readily accomplish, but not with

the staff which was sufficient for the old duties. Any library can provide, for example, the list of desiderata mentioned in the *Independent's* article, which could easily be extended. They can all be furnished by the library if the public wants them and will pay for them. They cannot be, and ought not to be, supplied by an already overworked library staff of two or three persons.

The library, therefore, should not enter upon these duties blindly or ignorantly. It is a great task which is thus undertaken — to educate the community to use books and to guide it in that use. Although small beginnings are possible, the work will inevitably grow on our hands just as that of the schools and colleges have done, and for similar reasons. But whatever difficulties lie in the way of their performance, it is plain that the library must assume these new duties. With many experiments, with many failures, with many partial successes, the library will extend its teachings, its conscious influences, until they touch the life of the community at every point.

In this rambling talk I have discussed library work as it looks forward to new problems, and have devoted only a word, and that perhaps a rather disparaging one, to the traditional use of the library. I would not leave the subject in this way. For the traditional use of books remains and will remain the center of library work and the main source of its best influences. The problem of the library to-day, looked at from within and not from without, and in relation to other agencies, is essentially that which confronts the university. Both institutions once stood for culture and for culture exclusively. Both are now challenged by the spirit of the newer time and are called upon to justify themselves as public utilities. This they must do, and that in full measure, but there is real danger that both, in the multiplicity of the new duties thus forced upon them, may forget the weighty words, "these ought ye to do and not leave the other undone." For, after all, the highest public utility which the library offers, or can offer, is the opportunity to cultivate the friendship of books. This utility is none the less precious because it is intangible. Indeed, it is the unique privilege of the library among municipal enterprises

that it can provide a service which aids the higher life of the citizen so directly and so purely. In the spirituality of this function, the library stands second only to the highest institutions of pure learning, and to the church.

No new undertaking, no extension of work, no plea of necessity can warrant or justify any loss of power on this highest level. The problem is not to discover how to sacrifice as little as possible of the old spirit to the new duties, but to learn how through the new duties we may make more widespread and more potent for good that oldest and best inheritance from the past — the love of books.

"The people's university" the library has been called, but it would be as great a pity if the librarian so understood this term as to believe that people came to the library only to learn, as it would be if any went there who could not learn what they sought. That university which is a place to study rather than a place to live is missing its best possibilities, and in a similar way the library ought to be, first and always, a place to read rather than a place to study. I would not go so far as to say that I want to find it a place to "loaf," though I might easily be provoked into saying so; but certainly it must be a place where I can "invite my soul" — such a place as the world gives me elsewhere only in the church or in the silence of nature. Trade journals and technical works are of great use; books for women's clubs are good things; the children's room is a necessity; but these of themselves no more make a library than a kitchen, dining room and bedroom make a home. Out of such utilities as these you may get a boarding house, but nothing better; the family makes it a home. Those are wholly wrong who believe that standard books are so cheap that anyone can buy them, and therefore the library could conceivably get on without them. Without the best literature you might get a very useful institution, no doubt, but not a library, for in a library the great works of great authors are the soul and theirs is the spirit which enables the library not merely to contribute to the advance of the community toward prosperity and intelligence, but also, in some degree, to touch its higher life to finer issues.

## LIBRARIES OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

A COMMITTEE consisting of Dr. Reuben G. Thwaites, superintendent of the Wisconsin Historical Library; Dr. Benjamin F. Shambaugh, of the University of Iowa, and Dr. Franklin L. Riley, of the University of Mississippi, has just submitted an elaborate report to the American Historical Association upon "The best methods of organization and work on the part of state and local historical societies." This document, containing elaborate statistics and other data, considers the entire subject in detail under the several headings "statistical," "organization," "scope and purpose," "methods of presentation," "interesting the public," and "co-operation," the report being practically a synoptical treatise on the management and aims of such societies. A synopsis of the recommendations in the document is presented by its author, Dr. Thwaites, in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for April. This, however, omits the statistical features summarized below, which are taken from the manuscript of the report itself.

Owing to the nature of these organizations, which range in effectiveness from the great state societies of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin to the small and often feeble local historical societies of minor counties and towns, complete statistics were unobtainable; but the tabulated returns, although necessarily showing many gaps, exhibit on the library side a remarkable showing.

In treating of the libraries of the 61 state historical societies and departments of history and archives, Dr. Thwaites says: "As will be seen, the returns are incomplete. Nevertheless those given show that in the state historical libraries and departments of the United States thus far heard from in detail there are shelved 1,591,191 books and pamphlets; it is probable that if figures could also be had from those not reporting there would be a total of nearly, if not quite, 1,700,000. State appropriations reported exhibit a total of \$140,370 annually; it is probable that the total might reach \$175,000 were the value of all state help represented in the above table, for in numerous Western commonwealths there are additional perquisites of official printing, stationery, postage, and miscellaneous supplies. The report on invested funds represents but three societies, which have an aggregate of \$444,000; but no doubt the facts, if ascertainable, would reveal a total for the various states of upwards of \$500,000."

In commenting upon the tabular statement representing 110 local historical societies, he writes: "Even from this incomplete table, we have an aggregate of 885,133 books and pamphlets in the several reporting libraries, and an annual income of \$93,372. We may safely

conclude that nearly every society of importance is here represented by statistics; yet were all the figures in, we doubtless should find a total of upwards of a million books and pamphlets—and were it possible to give the total of all membership fees and miscellaneous cash gifts devoted to the conduct of this class of societies, it is quite within the region of possibility that \$200,000 are annually contributed in the United States for this purpose."

Other items in the report, of special interest to librarians, are the following:

"Of the national societies engaged in the collection and publication of historical material—for obvious reasons the American Historical Association is not included in the report—easily the most important in library and resources is the American Antiquarian Society. Its substantial building at Worcester, Massachusetts, contains 120,000 volumes and a valuable collection of manuscripts, portraits, and antiques. The American Geographical Society, at New York, is housed in a \$200,000 building and possesses a library of 40,000 volumes. Other flourishing bodies are the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society of New York, the Daughters of the American Revolution (with a large building in Washington, now in process of construction), and the Jewish Publication Society of America.

"The list of sectional societies embraces many that are doing important work. The wealthiest and most effective of these is the New England Historic Genealogical Society, of Boston, housed in a building worth \$65,000 and having a library of 66,000 titles. It possesses, also, notable collections of manuscripts, and a large museum of portraits, curios, and antiques. The Confederate Memorial Literary Society, of Richmond, owns a museum and grounds valued at \$60,000, and an interesting library of printed and manuscript material relating to the history of the South prior to the War of Secession.

"It was found that 12 societies or departments own their own halls—those valued at \$100,000 or over being: Wisconsin, \$610,000; Iowa department, \$400,000; Massachusetts, \$225,000; Pennsylvania, \$200,000; and New Jersey, \$100,000. Thirteen are housed in their respective state capitols, seven are quartered in state universities, and six in other public buildings. The largest state appropriations are given to Wisconsin, \$32,000; Minnesota, \$15,000; and Iowa (department and society together), \$15,000. The Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin societies are of course the wealthiest in endowments, possessing respectively \$221,000, \$160,000, and \$53,000 in invested funds. The largest libraries are: Wisconsin, 275,000 titles; Pennsylvania, 245,000; Massachusetts, 155,000; Kansas, 115,000; and New Hampshire, 100,000.

"Some of the local societies are institutions



of considerable importance. The Essex Institute, of Salem, Massachusetts, with its income of \$15,000, library of 400,000 titles, and building valued at \$28,000, easily takes rank with the state societies. So also do the New York (City) Historical Society, with 1057 members, endowment funds aggregating \$236,000, yearly income of \$12,800, and a building costing \$400,000; the Chicago Historical Society, with a library of 100,000 titles, housed in a \$185,000 building, and supported by endowment funds aggregating \$96,000; the Long Island Historical Society, of Brooklyn, with 70,000 titles, in its own building; the Western Reserve, of Cleveland, with 60,000 titles in a \$55,000 building; the Worcester (Mass.) Society of Antiquities, housing 55,000 titles within a building valued at \$25,000; and the Buffalo Historical Society, which dwells in a \$200,000 building, has a library of 16,000 titles, and receives a municipal grant of \$5000 per annum (the only instance of this sort that has come under our notice).

"Many of those owning much smaller libraries and museums, quartered in less costly houses, are also institutions wielding a wide influence in historical study. It is interesting to note the considerable number finding lodgment in public library buildings, a significant connection promising well for both organizations. In several of the Eastern states, notably in Massachusetts, where nearly every town possesses an historical society as well as a public library, the former frequently owns or rents some historic building, generally a colonial farmhouse, which, often with excellent taste, has been converted into a public museum. This is an example well worth following by other local societies. In the South and the Middle West are many communities with historic structures that might be preserved for a like purpose."

#### DESTRUCTION OF SAN FRANCISCO AND OTHER CALIFORNIA LIBRARIES

THE terrible catastrophe in San Francisco on April 18, when earthquake and fire practically obliterated the city, included in its destruction nearly all the libraries of San Francisco, while the effects of the earthquake alone caused injury to libraries in other towns or cities.

From various reports received the record of destruction appears to be as follows:

##### SAN FRANCISCO

*Public Library*, main collection, located in the north wing of the city hall, completely lost; four branches are left, with about 30,000 volumes. The total contents of the library system (six branches and eight deposit stations) was given in the last report (to June 30, 1905) as 160,457. The library was founded under the first general library law of the

state, passed in March, 1878, and was opened to the public on June 7, 1879. It opened with 6000 books, for reading room use but not for circulation, in rented quarters in Pacific Hall, with a city appropriation of \$24,000. The circulation of books was begun in 1880, when there was an issue (home and library use) of 354,000 v. among 10,500 cardholders. The library has grown steadily during succeeding years, and in 1905 it contained a strong and well rounded general collection and circulated 830,225 v. for home use among 40,479 readers. It was established in attractive quarters in the city hall in 1893, and owned three of its branch buildings, while the city bond issue of 1903 made provision for appropriation of \$1,647,000 for the purchase of a site and erection of a fine central building. George T. Clark, the librarian, is a member of the present Council of the American Library Association, and Joy Lichtenstein, assistant librarian, has for the last two years been president of the California Library Association.

Under date of April 28 Mr. Lichtenstein writes: "We are still in the ring, if a little the worse for wear. Will start up next week. You would not know us just now, but wait until you see the new San Francisco." In a letter written May 2, he says: "The main library is entirely gutted—I could not find even a souvenir book or part of one. It is burned bare and absolutely nothing was saved. All the branches are saved except two; the new McCreery branch will probably be made headquarters. We had just been buying \$5000 worth of books for this branch, and so possess many good reference works. The branches all contain standard collections (reference and popular) and some periodical sets, and this is what we have to build on. We expect to get about \$75,000 insurance and have left \$30,000 of this fiscal year's appropriation. The spirit here is wonderful, and if no reaction comes it ought to be Chicago over again. But the ruin is well-nigh complete. Over half the town in area and probably nine-tenths of the productive part of it is gone—absolutely level with the ground. All the rest is more or less shaken, hardly a house escaped entirely. Our trustees meet to-day and will take steps toward reorganization. We will probably not be able to carry our whole staff, and this will leave some excellent people open for positions. I trust that some libraries will be able to take advantage of this. As to our future: there will be nothing to speak of to levy taxes on in San Francisco next year. A bond issue or something else will have to be resorted to, to get funds for running the city government. The charter makes it mandatory to levy at least 1½ c. on the \$100 of assessed valuation. Thus our future income depends somewhat on how much the city can raise to run the government. As to the main library, the lot is already purchased and a million dollars of bonds authorized for the building. If the

bonds are sold we can go right ahead. The whole thing depends upon the maintenance of the present spirit. If so, San Francisco will rise nobler than ever before. But the task is colossal—enough to make the strongest spirit quail. Fortunes have been swept away; men of standing a few weeks ago are now taking their places in the bread line. But the strong men are standing stiff and may pull us through—as an optimist, I believe they will."

*Mechanics' Institute Library*, at 31 Post street, in the heart of the business district, completely destroyed. The library was founded in 1854, and contained about 120,000 volumes, its development, especially in later years, having been particularly in technical, industrial and scientific works, while it had also many fine art books. It possessed a complete file of the British specifications of patents and rare and complete periodical sets, and had a membership of about 5000. By a merger arrangement effected in January of this year the library had been consolidated with the old Mercantile Library, under the name Mechanics-Mercantile. The librarian, Mr. Frederick J. Teggart, who is also honorary custodian of the H. H. Bancroft collection purchased last autumn by the University of California, writes: "We propose to rebuild at once." With insurance and other funds, the library authorities will have about \$150,000 with which to begin the work of replacement.

*Mercantile Library*, at 223 Sutter street, completely destroyed. This was the pioneer library of San Francisco, organized in 1852 and incorporated in 1853. Its history, however, had been unfortunate, its real estate investments proving disastrous, and the competition of the Odd Fellows', Mechanics' and other libraries pressing heavily upon it. Its building at Van Ness and Golden Gate avenues was sold in 1902, the library having been removed to the rented quarters on Sutter street. In January of this year it was merged with the Mechanics' Library, as previously noted. It contained about 80,000 volumes, especially strong in art and literature, and including many rare and valuable works.

*Sutro Library*, stored in two divisions, one in a warehouse at Pine and Battery streets, completely destroyed; and one in a building at Montgomery and Washington streets, escaped with little injury. This great collection of about 200,000 volumes was gathered by Adolf Sutro, former mayor of San Francisco; it had been his expressed intention to give the collection either to the city or to the University of California, but this was not stated in his will, which bequeathed all his "books and papers" to his sister, and the estate since his death in 1897 has been involved in family law suits, the library having been packed away in storage and kept absolutely inaccessible. As it had never been classified or inventoried—though a beginning in this task was made under Mr. Sutro's direction—no authorita-

tive statement of its contents can be given, but it is known that it contained many treasures, among much that was probably valueless, for Mr. Sutro bought his books almost wholesale, through agents all over the world. It contained for instance the collection, including thousands of early manuscripts, formerly owned by the monasteries of Bavaria, which were confiscated in 1886 by the government of the kingdom, lumped into one great lot and bought by Sutro's agents. In the same way he acquired from the Mexican government a forgotten collection of books, memorials, diaries and manuscripts bearing upon the early history of California and Lower California. This collection, regarded as containing invaluable materials of history of the old Pacific coast, it is said was never unpacked from its boxes. The library is said to have contained also a complete collection of Shakespeare folios—first, second, third, and fourth—many rare manuscript items of Shakespeareana, nearly a full set of folios of Ben Jonson, a rich collection of editions of the Book of Common Prayer, many fine specimens of early printing in Europe and Mexico, rare and valuable incunabula, a collection of British pamphlets and broadsides running from the early 17th century and said to be the most complete outside of the British Museum, and a remarkable collection of Hebrew manuscripts. About 120,000 v. are said to have been stored in the building that escaped the fire, including the Shakespeare, Book of Common Prayer and British broadside collections.

*Other libraries* destroyed are: the Academy of Sciences Library of about 12,000 volumes, important as a collection in natural history, particularly in transactions and proceedings of scientific societies; the San Francisco Law Library, 30,000 volumes; Law Library of the Supreme Court, 15,000 volumes; French Library, 10,000 volumes; library of the County Medical Society, 5000 volumes; part of the fine California collection of the Bohemian Club, 5000 volumes; the historical library of the Society of California Pioneers, notable for its collection of typewritten pioneer reminiscences; and the B'nai Brith Library, 10,000 volumes. A number of valuable private collections, both law and general, are also destroyed, as are the Booklovers' libraries and nearly all the bookstores.

The H. H. Bancroft Library of over 50,000 v., escaped the fire, which stopped within one block of the building and was not injured by the earthquake. This collection, the richest in existence relating to the history of the Pacific coast, was purchased last year by the University of California for \$250,000, as has been previously noted in these columns. It had not yet been removed across the bay to the university buildings at Berkeley, but was still housed in the building erected for it by Mr. Bancroft, an isolated two-story brick structure near the corner of Valencia

and Army streets. It was the only library left intact in the city. At the time of the shock the manuscripts and books had already been packed for removal, and their transfer to Berkeley was effected under military escort the first week in May.

#### LELAND STANFORD JR. UNIVERSITY

New library building completely wrecked by earthquake, as were most of the other buildings; books, collections and apparatus not greatly damaged. Loss to the university estimated at about \$4,000,000. The library building was not entirely completed, the cornerstone having been laid in May last. It cost \$1,000,000, and was a magnificent example of the mission style of architecture.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

The library was not damaged by earthquake, but has lost about 1000 volumes, which were in San Francisco and elsewhere. Mr. J. C. Rowell, the librarian, has issued a circular asking publishers or others to contribute copies of the more important lost volumes, of which titles are given.

#### SANTA ROSA

Public Library, housed in beautiful Carnegie building costing \$50,000 (15,000 v.), badly wrecked. Miss Barnett, the librarian, writes: "There was no fire, so the damage is almost entirely to the building and furnishings. The books are intact." The cost of repairs is estimated at \$6900. The worst damage was in the California room, which was entirely demolished.

#### SAN JOSE

Public Library, housed in \$50,000 Carnegie building (about 15,000 v.), escaped with slight damage by earthquake, but is said to be the only stone building left standing in the city.

#### REDWOOD

Free Library, in attractive Carnegie building (about 2500 v.), said to be seriously damaged.

#### OAKLAND

Public Library, in \$50,000 Carnegie building, opened in 1902, reported damaged to extent of about \$2000.

From the California State Library, at Sacramento, the following appeal has been sent out: "The state library desires to make a special collection of matter relating to the San Francisco fire, and we should receive with great thanks any contribution to it that our library friends may be able to make, in the shape of newspapers or otherwise. We should like particularly to get private letters received in the Eastern states descriptive of the experiences of the writers during the catastrophe, and the period of confusion following it. Would you be kind enough to let this be known among the library people? If requested, such letters will of course be sealed up for any number of years the donor may request."

### LIBRARY REFORM IN FRANCE

THE French Minister of Public Instruction last summer appointed a commission to study the organization of the archives and libraries of France. The general committee at once resolved itself into two subcommittees, on Archives with M. Cochery as chairman, and on Libraries with M. Leopold Delisle, for so many years the director of the Bibliothèque Nationale, as chairman. Discussing the matter in two letters to *Le Temps* for Dec. 27, 1905, and Jan. 10, 1906, which are reprinted in *Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Chartes* for November-December, 1905, Professor C. V. Langlois, of the University of Paris, and one of the foremost of French bibliographers and historical students, says:

"A unique occasion is thus offered to competent scholars and administrators to give suitable and thorough consideration to the very grave library problem. The condition of libraries in France leaves much to be desired and for the following reasons:

"The calling of librarian is not yet in our country a legally regulated and protected profession with definite duties, as the teaching professions have long been. It is not truly a career. Entrance to and promotion within its ranks are haphazard and the pay is not always proportioned to the work done.

"No uniform recruiting at the bottom. The university libraries alone require (since 1893) a definite and serious preparation before admission to the library staff. Those holding diplomas from the *Ecole des Chartes* and the *Ecole des Langues Orientales* are exempt from examinations for positions in the Bibliothèque Nationale. Since 1898 there are formalities in the nature of examinations of varying grades (which usually mean little or nothing) for entrance to most of the 'bibliothèques classées,' and special competitions when vacancies arise in the different municipal libraries, but there are still libraries where not even the pretence of an examination exists, where the first comer may be installed at once without certificate of general education or of technical preparation.

"No regular promotion. Nowhere, even in the Bibliothèque Nationale or in the university libraries, does there exist a fixed relation between promotion at will and promotion by seniority. It is an arbitrary régime tempered by the justice of the chief librarians who are often enough chosen, as is well known, outside the profession and from persons whom the politician, who holds the appointing power at the moment when vacancies occur, chooses to or must appoint. This circumstance does not of course prevent clear-sighted and fair librarians, for it often happens that these improvised judges of the hierarchy are very good fellows indeed, but it cannot but demoralize the subordinates, the real members of the pro-

fession, because it sensibly lessens their chances for reaching, by merit, the best places which the career offers. Organized vocations differ precisely from those which are not organized, in that those in chief administrative positions must first prove their right to be there.

"No adequate pay. It is not enough to say that library work in general is poorly paid, especially in the lower grades; the statement must be emphasized. In the Bibliothèque Nationale beginners remain at 1800 francs for years. There are now in this library a dozen attendants at this salary, several of whom are over 30 years old and of more than six years' service. But the inequality between different libraries is more regrettable still. There are libraries where the staff does not do much, either because there is really not much to do or because established tradition proscribes excessive zeal, and the salaries are sometimes higher than in the large libraries where the work is very hard.

"Maximum and minimum salaries in different libraries are fixed by chance, when occasion arises, without concerted plan or preliminary comparisons, and they are shockingly out of proportion.

"Such defective conditions could not have lasted till now if public opinion had held the profession of librarianship in proper esteem.

"But it cannot be denied that the majority of the French public still consider library positions as semi-sinecures, a conviction so widespread indeed that some librarians have but lately shared it.

"One still recalls that assistant in the Bibliothèque Nationale, a member of the Institut, who never went to the library even to draw his salary (he said that another employee brought it to his house), and who when recalled to professional duties by his superior replied in substance: 'I believe it to be more useful to society to write good books than to catalog bad ones.'

"The attitude of such librarians has helped not a little to re-enforce existing prejudices. Prejudices the more deplorable because they are the roots of all the ills which with us afflict our libraries.

"Beyond the vague idea that librarians are making a calling of their own, the French public has not sufficiently grasped the eminent rôle which libraries, general as well as special, scientific as well as popular, are now playing in modern society; and it is because this social value of libraries as instruments of research and education is not clearly conceived that their budgets remain so miserably small even while parliament and local authorities give liberally in other ways to science and education. The libraries of France are very poor; the annual budget of the Bibliothèque Nationale and of the three great general libraries

in Paris is less than a million francs; only 20 libraries of the province have more than 10,000 francs annually to spend. The state aids municipal and popular libraries only by grants of books, while the annual sum devoted each year to scientific and literary subscriptions far from increasing is diminishing little by little.

"Abroad, especially in the German and English countries, the situation is quite different. We must neither exaggerate to ourselves the happy conditions of German, English or American librarians nor the influence of their activity on the communities in which they work; they have troubles of their own. The Proceedings (September, 1905) of the last conference of American librarians reads: 'In the United States the administrators of public libraries are not always chosen for their professional merit; sometimes distinguished amateurs or politicians in distress (as recently happened in Connecticut) are selected for these posts.' In the extremely favorable impression which, at a distance or in passing, is left by a study of the libraries of certain foreign countries there is room assuredly for optimistic illusion. None the less, however, the libraries of these countries have certain advantages over ours.

"Whoever doubts this has only to glance over, e.g., Graeser's 'Handbuch der bibliothekslehre' and the publications of the American Library Association. We have nothing in France to compare with the vast administrative establishments of the great libraries of Boston and Washington, or the innumerable public libraries which Mr. Carnegie, his fore-runners, and his imitators, have established in Scotland, England and the United States, nor have we anything to compare as bibliographic instruments with the general catalog of the British Museum library or the 'Gesammtkatalog der preussischen wissenschaftlichen bibliotheken.' But the chief advantage which the German, English and American libraries have over ours is assuredly the faith of the German, English, and American public in their mission.

"Now this faith, of which even the excess holds something to admire, benefits the foreign libraries only because their librarians share it; it has for long penetrated and permeated their *personnels*. This faith, source of life from which all else proceeds, has found its apostles in the librarians, and they sustain it by their zeal and care. Our libraries will equal in all respects the libraries of Germany, England, and the United States when our librarians have for the dignity and ideals of their profession as lofty a sentiment and regard as have our confrères beyond the Rhine and across the sea. But how are they going to have it if they continue to be recruited as in the past under an arbitrary régime? To



sum up, it appears that the real remedy for the present library situation in France is a reform in *personnel*. I desire to indicate in a second letter the view of the subcommittee on libraries as to how this reform may be brought about."

In his second letter Professor Langlois gives a brief account of the discussion and resulting recommendations of the subcommittee; recommendations which will be embodied in a proposed law covering the whole matter of the reform of archives and libraries:

"When the committee met, it found itself without a definite program, but confronted by a host of questions relating to public libraries. Very wisely it decided to study first those topics which might properly be made a subject for legislation and which were based on sound principles, leaving the details of application for later consideration. It was soon recognized that the career or profession of librarian must be organized on the model which is at present offered in France by the educational professions. The first matter then was to consider a serious and uniform entrance requirement. No one is to be permitted to join the staff of a public library who does not present certain certificates of general education and of professional competence as well. The librarian must be, so to speak, a 'gentleman' from the intellectual point of view, and he must know his trade before attempting to practice it. It is not too much to insist, therefore, that henceforth all candidates for library work must first have completed a symmetrical high school course, the entrance to which will be equally guarded by preliminary conditions; must show additional certificates of secondary education and the certificate of professional apprenticeship. Such a system would have in it nothing new, since it is already in force in our university libraries. In fact it is scarcely more than giving general application to the library training of which our university libraries have proved the efficiency for 15 years. The committee has made up a list of the credentials covering general education which will be recognized. The certificate covering professional training will be given after a course of six months in one of the libraries, which shall be designated by the proper authorities to receive apprentices (*stagiaires*). It is to be well understood that such a course will be organized for the specific purpose of training these apprentices and not for the benefit of the library itself, and the committee particularly mentions the experience of foreign libraries which has tended to transform this apprentice into a gratuitous assistant.

"This apprenticeship will be offered every year or every other year to as many candidates as there seem likely to be vacancies in

prospect, and it would have of course a technical and professional character. The committee has not felt called to outline a program, but in all probability it will closely resemble the instruction now given in all university libraries. The committee found considerable difficulty in fixing the number of libraries which shall be required to employ only these trained assistants. Certainly the national libraries, all the larger reference libraries excepting those in the university, and the more important municipal libraries, to be exact, the 37 of the latter which are known as 'classées.' As for the other municipal libraries, 100 in number, but three pay the librarian a salary of 1800 francs or more, while none of the popular libraries have resources equal to the scale of salaries which the committee wishes to fix for trained workers. It was clear then that the line must be drawn somewhere, and the committee fixed it between the 'bibliothèques municipales classées' and the other municipal libraries not so designated. The administration of the small local libraries, the popular libraries as it were, will not be changed.

"The committee will also make definite recommendations regarding promotion, in which regard merit and seniority of service will be equally considered. The positions will be classified and promotions will be from grade to grade. The whole matter of advance will be in the hands of a central consulting committee. The only exception to this rigid provision for promotion is made with the chief librarian, but even in his case ten years at least of service and the attainment of a certain grade will be recommended. These measures will be definitely embodied in a law which will be recommended for passage, and which if enacted will make librarianship in France a profession comparable to that of professors in secondary and higher schools."

In some discussions of this report by M. J. Laude a suggestion has been made that each city shall henceforth be obliged to provide for its library a definite sum to be fixed by the minister of public instruction and the mayor, that the state shall also contribute to the aid of all municipal libraries, and that all salaries shall be increased not only in the lower grades where the necessity is greatest, but in the larger salaries for the chief librarian, and finally that there shall be created in the office of public instruction a bureau for the direction of public libraries. These recommendations, however, go farther than the committee deems wise and are likely to impair the whole bill and prevent even such salutary reform as seems possible. They are interesting, however, as indicating that the reforms are not failing to find friends who are willing to go even further than the official thinks wise.

J. I. WYER, JR.

### A NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

A PLAN outlining the establishment of a library for the blind has been formulated by Asa Don Dickinson, of the staff of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library, and was described in the Brooklyn *Eagle* of March 18. Mr. Dickinson has had charge of the organization of the department for the blind maintained by the Brooklyn Public Library, but believes that the most satisfactory means of supplying books for blind readers would be through a great central national collection, which should avail itself of the free postal transmission of such books. He says:

"There are about 80,000 blind people in this country. A fortunate few among this great army have learned to do something or to make something toward their own support. A considerable number have been taught to read in their younger days, and this accomplishment is a great boon so long as access to fresh material remains to them. But books for the blind are expensive and scarce. And the forms of raised type in which they are printed are many and various. Few public libraries throughout the country care to take up a form of work where much money must be spent to benefit the few blind people of their own immediate field. And supposing that a couple of hundred dollars is found to be spent in this way, what is the result? A score of books (in three score volumes) are bought and the blind inhabitants of the district canvassed; many of them have never been taught to read, or have become blind late in life and have never been taught to read books for the blind. Of those who can read, few are they who can read more than one form of the four kinds of type, whose use is pretty equally divided throughout the country. If our score of books are all of one type, they will serve only a part of our scanty blind reading public; if they are of several types, there will be only a half dozen available to each reader. These will soon be read and in six months' time the dust will be thick upon them and the trustees and the librarian will remember them only when they think of mistakes made and money squandered."

In supplying books to the blind, use should be made of "those potent tools of progress—co-operation, combination, organization." "If we gather our books for the blind into one storehouse, preferably near the center of population and on a trunk line of communication, we can, by a recent act of Congress, send the individual book through the mail to the individual citizen free of charge, and he can return it to us free of charge when he has finished with it. Free delivery of books through the mail has been the dream of librarians for a generation, yet though it has become an accomplished fact as to books for the blind, only

slight use has thus far been made of the privilege.

"It would be very difficult, almost impossible, to persuade the libraries throughout the country to contribute their quota of books for the blind to the general storehouse until it was known to be a responsible institution with a sound financial backing. It would probably be necessary to gather a large collection and to start the work before other libraries were asked to contribute their collections to our fold." Essentials for the establishment of such a central library are: 1, money, selection of name and location, the latter in some place where communication with the whole country is easy and rents are low; 2, purchase and cataloging of books and collection of information about the blind; 3, advertisement of the purpose and scope of the institution; 4, co-operation and interest on the part of libraries and library associations, church societies, etc.; 5, travelling libraries sent to co-operating libraries, personal instruction of blind persons, and reading to the blind. It is also urged that systematic effort be made to gather and arrange all possible information regarding blind persons in the United States, to study the different systems of raised print, with a view to selecting the best, and to help the blind to a new occupation by employing them to transcribe more books into raised print. Mr. Dickinson asks: "Could the scope of the existing American Printing House for the Blind be enlarged to include this work? Could the Library of Congress so enlarge the scope of its existing department for the blind as to make it a national library for the blind? Or should an effort be made to interest some philanthropist in the plan?"

### DR. RICHARD GARNETT

DR. RICHARD GARNETT, for forty-eight years in the service of the British Museum, whose name was a household word among scholars and librarians throughout the world, died of internal hemorrhage at his home in London, on April 13, 1906. Richard Garnett was born in Lichfield, England, on Feb. 27, 1835, the eldest son of Rev. Richard Garnett, who was assistant keeper of printed books in the British Museum. His early education was at home and at private schools, and in 1851, at the age of sixteen, he entered the service of the British Museum as a junior assistant. Practically, therefore, his whole life was passed among books. In 1875 he was made assistant keeper of printed books and superintendent of the reading room, in which position he was from 1881 to 1890 concerned with the preparation of the great printed catalog. From 1890 to 1899 he was keeper of printed books, and in the latter year he re-

tired from the service of the Museum.\* In 1883 the University of Edinburgh conferred upon him the degree of LL.D., and in 1895 he was made Commander of the Bath. Of his long connection with the British Museum the *Athenaeum* says: "His knowledge of the extraordinary collection under his care was wonderful, and his kindness in assisting research exemplary. Many a student owes to his memory and reading references on abstruse subjects and authors which only an encyclopaedic mind could carry. Such learning is rare at any time, and especially in the present age, in which the hurry of competition and premature specialization have almost eliminated the all-round scholar. His knowledge and enthusiasm were at the service of all who approached him, and he was singularly tolerant of those odd or wayward characters which are an occasional feature of the reading-room. He had a keen eye for bibliographical treasures, and his discovery of some letters by Shelley will be remembered."

Dr. Garnett's literary activities were incessant, even during the years of his most exacting professional work. He possessed the gifts of imaginative skill and poetic fancy, and of unremitting industry, and the list of his writings would be imposing if produced by a man with no other vocation. Taken as representing time and work in addition to that required by the daily routine of his profession, and they are a remarkable indication of the breadth and depth of his scholarship, his versatility, and his indefatigable energy. His first volume was "Primula," a book of lyrics, printed in 1858. This was followed by "Io in Egypt," and other poems (1859); "Poems from the German" (1862); "Relics of Shelley" (1862); "Idylls and epigrams" (1869); "Life of Carlyle" (1887); "Life of Emerson" (1888); "Twilight of the gods" (1888), fantastic tales of a delicate poetic charm; "Life of Milton" (1890); "Iphigenia in Delphi" (1891); "Age of Dryden" (1895); "Sonnets from Dante, Petrarch and Camoens" (1896); "William Blake" (1895); "Richmond on the Thames" (1896); "A history of Italian literature" (1898); "Life of Edward Gibbon Wakefield" (1898); "Essays in librarianship and bibliography" (1899); "Essays of an ex-librarian" (1901); "William Shakespere, pedagogue and poacher" (1904). In 1903 and 1904 he collaborated with Edmund Gosse in an illustrated record of English literature. He was a liberal contributor to the "Encyclopedia Britannica" and the "Dictionary of national biography," and was editor of "The international library of famous literature." He wrote many papers and addresses for the Library Association of the United Kingdom, edited his father's "Philo-

logical essays," the works of Thomas Love Peacock, Drayton's "Battle of Agincourt," Beckford's "Vathek," the works of Matthew Arnold, and many rare and curious manuscripts. The remarkable little volume, "De flagello myrto: thoughts and fancies on love," first published anonymously in 1895 and just issued in a second enlarged edition, was written by him, the announcement of its authorship being made in the issue of the *Athenaeum* (April 21), in which his obituary appears. He belonged, of course, to many literary and learned societies, among them the Library Association of the United Kingdom, of which he had served as president; the Bibliographical Society, the Massachusetts Historical Society, American Philosophical Society, Dante Society, Societa Bibliografica Italiana, and he was a trustee of the National Portrait Gallery. The death of his wife three years ago seriously affected his health and spirits, but his death was unexpected and came as a sudden blow to the hosts of friends whom he had made in the course of a long, useful and kindly life.

#### THE MILTON (MASS.) PUBLIC LIBRARY

At the annual town meeting in March, 1902, the town of Milton appropriated \$50,000 for a new library building. When plans were submitted by the architects, Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, of Boston, it was found that the appropriation was not sufficient to build an entirely fireproof building, with the space and conveniences necessary for the work. To meet this deficiency, Mr. Nathaniel T. Kidder, one of the trustees, gave \$21,000 to make the building complete. In honor of this gift the main floor of the library has been named Kidder hall, and is so designated by a suitable bronze tablet.

Work on the building was begun early in 1903, and on June 11, 1904, it was opened to the public. It is built of brick and limestone, in the Italian Renaissance style. Its frontage is about 75 feet, and its depth 85 feet. There is a broad stone terrace in front and the entrance is through a porch with Ionic columns. Opening from the vestibule immediately on the right is a reception room, and on the left the stairs to the second story and basement. The public space and working space are lighted from above. Here are the issue desk, catalog cases, bulletin boards, etc. On the left of this space is the general reading room, and on the right the children's room. Back of these, to the right and left, and also opening from the working space are the librarian's room and the cataloging room. At the rear of the working space are two fireproof stack rooms. In the basement are a room for the use of the Milton Historical Society, the staff

\* For note of Dr. Garnett's retirement see L. J., 24: 129, and for portrait see L. J., 24: 559.

room, janitor's shop, boiler room and coal bins, lavatories, a room for the branch and school work and a general work room. A book lift connects the basement with the upper floors. On the second floor are an art room, a trustees' room, and two other rooms, which are at present used for storage. The floors of the public space, corridors and lavatories are of white marble; other floors are of oak and pine, with cement in the basement. The building has plenty of windows, and is also well equipped with electric lights.

The furnishings are of fumed oak in simple but beautiful design; the walls are painted in delicate yellows and greens, and the electric light fixtures are of a dull green bronze, a combination which gives a reposeful effect. The heating and ventilating plants do their work admirably. The total cost of the building, outside of the land, was \$71,000; the cost of the furnishings about \$5000.

Library work in Milton has its peculiar problems. The town has a population of 7054 (the census just taken); it covers an area of 8400 acres, or 13½ square miles. It is largely a residential town, although the Baker Chocolate Mills, nominally across the river in Dorchester, but in reality lying partly on the Milton side, bring to the town many operatives. The population of Milton is not large, but the town spreads over so much territory that its residents use five railroad stations and as many postoffices. These geographical problems have been solved partly by deposit and delivery stations and partly by a system of house-to-house delivery.

The new building is located at what is known as the "Center." It is the center geographically, at which point are grouped two churches, the high and consolidated grammar schools, and the town hall. At East Milton, Mattapan, and at a farming settlement in the Blue Hills known as Scott's Woods, the library has reading rooms, which are also deposit and delivery stations. At Milton village there is a deposit and delivery station. The distances from the central library vary from 1 to 2¼ miles. An electric car line connects these points. With the exception of the reading room at Scott's Woods (open twice a week), these reading rooms and stations are open daily; from 250 to 400 books are on deposit, some of which are changed each month. There is also a weekly delivery from the central library. Magazines, newspapers and a few reference books are to be found at each reading room.

The system of house-to-house delivery covers one section of the town where the estates are large and where the distances are too great to be covered by deposit or delivery stations. The delivery is made once a week by wagon. This service is made possible by a trust fund, the income of which pays one-

third of the cost of delivery. A fuller account of the work will be found in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for June, 1905. Deposits of books are sent to the schools, to the Convalescent Home, to the poor farm, and to a barber shop in the village, which reaches certain men and boys who do not frequent the reading rooms.

Regular meetings of the Milton Historical Society, of a boys' club, and of committees of other societies are held at the library. The art room is used constantly for exhibits of local and other interest, also for classes in the study of art.

The total number of volumes in the library is 15,693. In January, 1900, the work of reorganizing was begun, and the library was classified and recataloged. At that time the population of Milton was 6578, and the circulation from the library for the year ending Dec. 31, 1899, was 19,168. So great has been the growth of the work that the present system includes a central library, three reading rooms (which are also deposit and delivery stations), four deposit stations, and a house-to-house delivery. As previously stated, the circulation in 1899 was 19,168; in 1905 it was 57,349, a circulation per capita of 8.1, and a net gain of 38,181.

#### ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

"An unqualified success" is the verdict to be rendered upon the seventh annual meeting of the Ontario Library Association. In attendance, interest and practical value the meeting, held in Toronto Easter Monday and Tuesday, April 16 and 17, was the best yet. The presence of the newly-appointed Deputy Minister of Education, Mr. A. H. U. Colquhoun, and the Superintendent of Public Libraries, Mr. T. W. H. Leavitt, added much to the value of the meeting.

The sessions were preceded by a luncheon of the executive committee on Monday noon, the guests being Mr. Colquhoun and Mr. C. H. Gould, of McGill University Library, Montreal. The opening session on Monday afternoon was well attended and the reports of the officers received careful attention. Four Carnegie buildings were opened during the past year, viz., St. Thomas, Galt, Waterloo and St. Mary's, and donations have been made to Woodstock, Picton, Bracebridge, Wallaceburg, Brampton, Perth, Burlington, Gravenhurst, Belleville and Oshawa. The Ottawa building is ready for formal opening, and the Toronto plans are about completed for the main building and one of the branches. The secretary also noted the attempts made to hold library institutes. Though none were held during the year, some progress was made to that end and the association decided to hold several during the coming year. This is an impor-



tant advance movement. The report of the secretary and the address of the president urged again a library commission, and there are better prospects for such a commission than at any previous time.

Two very interesting committee reports were given, one by Dr. Bain on "List of best books of 1905," and the other by Mr. Gurd on "Juvenile books suitable for Canadian libraries." Dr. Bain had his list in print and distributed it to the members. Mr. Gurd's list of about 1000 titles is in the printer's hands. Both are being issued by the government.

The papers given at the meeting this year were: "The one-room library and its possibilities," by Mrs. Jones, Newmarket; "The treatment of pamphlets," by Miss Rowsome, Guelph, and "The public library and the school," by O. J. Stevenson, St. Thomas. The last named paper provoked sharp discussion, opinion being divided as to the advisability of the library attempting so much for the school, with the danger of neglecting the work in its own more immediate sphere.

The most interesting feature of the meeting was the study of library buildings on Monday evening. This was illustrated by about 100 lantern slides of libraries in Ontario, United States and England. Merits and defects were frankly pointed out and much interesting discussion followed. As four library boards about to build had representatives present, the practical value of this discussion is evident. Shortly after the meeting the secretary arranged for deputations from two other library boards to come to Toronto to see the slides.

Two interesting resolutions were presented, one recommending the Decimal classification as the official classification for Ontario libraries and the other urging the matter of cheaper postage on British periodicals. The first resolution stands over till next year. The association closed its proceedings by being photographed.

There was one feature of this year's meeting that meant sadness and regret. We missed the friendly presence of Mr. R. J. Blackwell, who died early this year. He was one of the founders of the association and had not missed a meeting. The association missed very much his hearty discussion of library problems.

The following are the officers for 1906-7: president, Norman Gurd, Sarnia; 1st vice-president, Albert Sheldrick, Chatham; 2d vice-president, Rev. W. A. Bradley, Berlin; secretary, E. A. Hardy, 65 Czar street, Toronto; treasurer, A. B. Macallum, 59 St. George street, Toronto; councillors: James Bain, Toronto; Judge Hardy, Brantford; J. Steele, Stratford; A. W. Cameron, Streetsville; Judge Mahaffy, Bracebridge; ex-president, W. J. Robertson, St. Catharines. The next meeting will be held on Easter Monday and Tuesday, 1907.

E. A. HARDY, Secretary.

## American Library Association

*President:* Frank P. Hill, Brooklyn Public Library, 26 Brevoort Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

*Secretary:* J. I. Wyer, Jr., State Library, Albany, N. Y.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

NARRAGANSETT CONFERENCE, JUNE 29 - JULY 6, 1906

### OUTLINE PROGRAM \*

Friday, June 29

Morning. Free for arrival.

Afternoon.

2.30. Executive Board.

3.30. Council.

5.00. Committees (as may be arranged).

Evening.

8.30-10. Informal reception.

Saturday, June 30

Morning. Free.

Afternoon.

2.30. First general session.

Welcome in behalf of the state, Lieut.-Gov.

Hon. Frederick H. Jackson.

Welcome in behalf of the Rhode Island Library Association, Harry L. Koopman, librarian Brown University, Providence, R. I.

Welcome in behalf of the local committee, Rowland G. Hazard, Esq.

Response, President American Library Association.

President's address, Frank P. Hill, librarian, Public Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Library affairs in Great Britain, Henry R. Tedder, librarian Athenæum Club, London.

Report of Council.

Reports of officers:

Secretary, J. I. Wyer, Jr.

Treasurer, Gardner M. Jones.

Trustees of Endowment Fund, C. C. Soule.

Reports of committees:

Bookbuying. A. E. Bostwick, chief of Circulation Department, New York Public Library, chairman.

Title-pages to periodicals. W. I. Fletcher, librarian, Amherst College Library, chairman.

Book binding and book papers. G. F. Bowerman, Public Library, Washington, D. C., chairman.

[The reports of the several committees heretofore presented at one session have been distributed throughout the general sessions, in the hope that this arrangement will give more than the usual time for discussion.]

Saturday, June 30

Evening. 8.00

National Association of State Librarians.

1st session.

\*Subject to change.

John Pendleton Kennedy, state librarian, Virginia, president.  
 Catalog Section. 1st session.  
 Miss Theresa Hitchler, superintendent of Cataloging Department, Brooklyn Public Library, chairman.  
 Round table meeting for small libraries.  
 Miss Frances L. Rathbone, librarian, Public Library, East Orange, N. J., in charge.

*Sunday, July 1*

Morning and afternoon free.

Evening. 8.00.

Singing, in charge of Albert T. Briggs, Cambridge, Mass.

Authors' readings. Names to be announced.

Stereopticon glimpses of 12 A. L. A. post-conferences, F. W. Faxon, chairman, Travel Committee, A. L. A.

*Monday, July 2*

Morning. 9.30.

Children's Librarians' Section. Mrs. Arabelle H. Jackson, 1st assistant, Children's Department, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa., chairman.

Bibliographical Society of America. William Coolidge Lane, librarian, Harvard University Library, president.

Afternoon. 2.30.

Trustees' Section. W. T. Porter, trustee of the Public Library, Cincinnati, Ohio, chairman.

League of Library Commissions. Henry E. Legler, secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, president.

College and Reference Section, 1st session. J. T. Gerould, librarian, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., chairman.

Evening. 8.00.

2d general session.

The public library as a municipal institution:

In relation to the city as an educational institution. Hon. David A. Boody, president, Board of Trustees, Brooklyn Public Library.

As affecting its administration. Horace G. Wadlin, librarian, Public Library, Boston, Mass.

The future of library commissions. Melvil Dewey (on behalf of League of Library Commissions).

Effects of earthquake and fire on San Francisco libraries. Frederick J. Teggart, librarian, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco, Cal.

Reports of committees:

Gifts and bequests. Joseph L. Harrison, librarian, Providence Athenæum, Providence, R. I., chairman.

A. L. A. Publishing Board. W. C. Lane. Co-operation with National Educational Association. James H. Canfield, librarian, Columbia University, chairman.

Library administration. W. R. Eastman, library inspector, New York State Library, Albany, N. Y., chairman.

Public documents. Adelaide R. Hasse, head of Document Department, New York Public Library, chairman.

Index to prose fiction. Josephine A. Rathbone, Pratt Institute Library School, Brooklyn, N. Y., chairman.

*Tuesday, July 3*

Free for Providence trip.

*Wednesday, July 4*

Morning. 9.30.

National Association of State Librarians. 2d session.

Catalog Section. 2d session.

Afternoon. 2.30.

3d general session.

Address, Rev. W. H. P. Faunce, president of Brown University, Providence, R. I.

Address, Hon. George H. Utter, Governor of Rhode Island.

Subjects fit for fiction, Owen Wister.

Reports of committees:

Ways and means. E. C. Hovey, chairman.

Permanent headquarters. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, chairman.

Publicity. John Cotton Dana, librarian, Public Library, Newark, N. J., chairman.

Evening. Free.

*Thursday, July 5*

Morning. 9.30.

College and Reference Section. 2d session.

Children's Librarians' Section. 2d session.

Afternoon. 2.30.

4th general session.

Planning and construction of library buildings:

Raymond F. Almirall.

C. C. Soule.

Bernard R. Green.

W. H. Brett.

Views of a consulting architect. Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, Columbia University.

Reports of committees:

International relations. Dr. E. C. Richardson, librarian, Princeton University Library, Princeton, N. J., chairman.

Library training. Miss Mary W. Plummer, director, Pratt Institute Library School, Brooklyn, N. Y., chairman.

Evening. 8.00.

Round table meeting for proprietary libraries. Charles K. Bolton, librarian, Boston Athenæum, Boston, Mass., in charge.

Round table meeting for small libraries. Miss Mary E. Downey, librarian, Public Library, Ottumwa, Ia., in charge.

Round table meeting for naval and military libraries. Frederick Charles Hicks, librarian, U. S. Naval War College, Newport, R. I., in charge.

Friday, July 6

Morning, 9.30.

5th general session.

The library in relation to special classes of readers:

Books for the blind. Emma R. Neisser, Free Library, Philadelphia, Pa.

Books for the foreign population. James H. Canfield, librarian, Columbia University, New York City.

Supply and use of technical and industrial books. Harrison W. Craver, Technology librarian, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Libraries and settlement work. Cora Stewart, custodian Station P, Public Library, Boston, Mass.

Announcement of result of ballot.

Reports of committees.

Unfinished business.

#### LOCAL COMMITTEES IN CHARGE OF CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

*General committee of the Rhode Island Library Association.*—Joseph LeRoy Harrison, Providence Athenæum, Providence; William E. Foster, Public Library, Providence; George Parker Winship, John Carter Brown Library, Providence; Richard Bliss, Redwood Library, Newport; J. Harry Bongartz, State Law Library, Providence; Clarence S. Brigham, Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence; Herbert O. Brigham, State Library, Providence; Mabel E. Emerson, Public Library, Providence; Frederick W. Faxon, Boston, Mass.; William C. Greene, trustee Narragansett Library Association, Peace Dale; George D. Hersey, M.D., Rhode Island Medical Society, Providence; Harry L. Koopman, Brown University Library, Providence; Mrs. Minerva A. Sanders, Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library, Pawtucket; Ama H. Ward, Harris Institute Library, Woonsocket; Ethan Wilcox, Public Library, Westerly.

*Honorary committee of citizens.*—Rev. W. H. P. Faunce, D.D., chairman; Gen. William Ames, Stephen H. Arnold, Isaac C. Bates, Daniel Beckwith, William Binney, G. Alder Blumer, M.D., Mrs. Harold Brown, Kenyon L. Butterfield, Admiral F. E. Chadwick, U. S. N., Charles S. Chapin, Howard L. Clark, Mrs. Alfred M. Coats, Samuel Morris Conant, Rev. John B. Diman, Hon. William W. Douglas, Miss Sarah E. Doyle, Hon. Elisha Dyer, Stephen O. Edwards, William Gammell, Professor Henry B. Gardner, Hon. F. P. Garretson, Col. R. H. I. Goddard, Col. William Goddard, Rev. Daniel Goodwin, D.D., Rev. Edward Everett Hale, D.D., Professor Albert Harkness, LL.D., Miss Caroline Hazard, Mrs. William L. Hodgman, Eleazer B. Homer, Hon. Frederick H. Jackson, Miss Lida Shaw King, Miss Amelia S. Knight, Rev. George L. Locke, D.D., Frederick Roy Martin, Stephen O. Metcalf, Horace G. Miller, M.D., Professor

W. H. Munro, Edward I. Nickerson, Mrs. Gustav Radeke, Hon. Walter E. Ranger, Henry D. Sharpe, William P. Sheffield, Jr., Mrs. Thomas P. Shepard, George L. Shepley, Walter H. Small, Hon. John H. Stiness, Alfred Stone, James E. Sullivan, M.D., Cornelius S. Sweetland, Hon. William H. Sweetland, Hon. George H. Utter, William B. Weeden, Herbert J. Wells, Rev. Charles J. White, D.D., Owen Wister, Miss Mary E. Woolley.

Special committees have also been appointed as follows: Reception committee, Providence day committee, Newport day committee, Relations with A. L. A., Badge, Handbook, Hotels and meeting rooms (F. W. Faxon, E. C. Hovey, Earl N. Manchester of Brown University Library).

#### COMMITTEE ON TITLE-PAGES AND INDEXES TO PERIODICALS

The committee met in New York, on April 12, and agreed on a plan of action in co-operation, if that can be secured, with the Association of Periodical Publishers. Later in the same day Mr. W. I. Fletcher, chairman of the committee, met this association at their monthly lunch and business meeting, where he was cordially received and given an opportunity to express the views of his committee. Mr. Joseph Mitchell Chapple, editor and publisher of the *National Magazine*, was appointed as a committee of the association to co-operate with the A. L. A. committee in drawing up a statement which might receive the approval of both associations and have weight with publishers. Such a statement is now in preparation.

#### State Library Commissions

**NEW JERSEY PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION:**  
Henry C. Buchanan, secretary, State Library, Trenton.

The sixth annual report of the commission, just issued (40 p. O.), records a general improvement in library conditions throughout the state. The appointment of an organizer, to visit small libraries and give advice and help in their management; closer relations with the state library associations; and the carrying through of plans for a summer course in library training, are means by which the work of the commission has been strengthened and made more useful to librarians of the state. Booklists, bulletins, and similar publications have been freely distributed, and every effort is made to aid in establishing new libraries and to help untrained librarians. By arrangement with the Philadelphia Free Library, its department of books for the blind is placed at the service of blind readers in New Jersey, the books being sent free through the mails, on condition that the commission subscribe toward the printing of books in raised characters. During 10 months Miss Askew, the commission's organizer, visited 79

public libraries and also visited 10 towns and villages without libraries, in the effort to awaken interest in library organization or to explain the travelling library system. "16 of the libraries visited were uncataloged; 13 had only printed lists of titles arranged alphabetically; 42 were either unclassified or with very imperfect classification, and 15 of these had the books arranged on the shelves as they had been bought, using the accessions book as a catalog." Of the libraries visited, 21 have adopted new methods and greatly improved their administration. The commission has been represented and its work described at the meetings of the state library association and the state federation of women's clubs. It has now 50 travelling libraries, with 3,400 v. in circulation, of which 12 have been loaned to small libraries, 20 to study clubs, and 18 to towns without libraries; the circulation through these libraries has been over 12,000 v., of which 59 per cent. was fiction. An annual fee of \$2 is charged for the use of these libraries. Abstracts are given from the reports of the chief New Jersey libraries, and the usual full statistical table of libraries of the state is appended. It shows a total of 132 libraries reporting to the commission, 85 of which are free, 36 subscription, 11 school or institutional; 40 are in whole or part supported by the town, 63 own their buildings, 86 have reading rooms, and 23 have separate rooms for children.

### State Library Associations

#### CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*President:* James L. Gillis, state librarian, Sacramento.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary L. Sutcliffe, State Library, Sacramento.

*Treasurer:* David M. Belfrage, Cooper Medical Library, San Francisco.

The report of the March meeting, as given in April L. J., should be corrected according to the following particulars:

According to the new constitution, adopted at the special meeting on March 23, the name of the association is changed from Library Association of California to California Library Association. The four districts into which the state is divided cover, 1, the interior northern counties; 2, the counties around San Francisco and along the north coast; 3, the San Joaquin Valley counties; 4, the counties south of Tehachapi. Each district is to have its own president, appointed by the president of the association, and each holds quarterly meetings, with an annual meeting of the whole association. The number of districts is left to the discretion of the president.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*President:* Alfred E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* H. E. Richie, Public Library, Denver.

*Treasurer:* C. R. Dudley, Public Library, Denver.

The association held its regular quarterly meeting on Saturday evening, March 31, at the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in the capitol building, Denver.

The program was as follows: "Problems of the college library," by Miss Mabel C. Shrum, librarian of the State School of Mines; "Art and the modern library," by Henry Read.

The rest of the evening was devoted to informal discussion of different topics, especially the subject of books for the blind and a union list of the magazines and periodicals in the different libraries of the state.

H. E. RICHIE, *Secretary.*

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*President:* George F. Bowerman, Public Library.

*Secretary:* Earl G. Swem, Library of Congress.

*Treasurer:* Henry S. Parsons, Office of Documents.

The 93d regular meeting of the District of Columbia Library Association was held in the children's room of the Public Library, April 25, 1906, at 8.15 p.m., President Bowerman in the chair. The two additional members for the committee in charge of compilation of the handbook were announced by the chair as Miss Oberly, of the Library of the Department of Agriculture, and Mr. W. Moseby Williams, of the committee on the public library of the Board of Trade. The secretary announced the election of two new members, Mr. William A. Pollard, Public Documents Library, and Mr. W. F. Dodd, Law Division, Library of Congress.

Dr. F. H. Garrison, in his paper on the "Library of the Surgeon-General's Office," stated that the library, containing 156,469 volumes, or 433,522 volumes and pamphlets, is one of the three largest medical libraries in the world, surpassed in numbers only by the collections at Paris and St. Petersburg. This library contains an unrivalled collection of medical periodicals and is rich in incunabula. The first printed work of Hippocrates, the "father of medicine," is here in the original Greek, issued by the Aldine Press at Venice in 1526. There are 51 different editions of his collected works in numerous languages, and the total number of his works here reaches 882. The collection, started by Surgeon-General Lovell prior to 1836, has been materially enlarged through the efforts of the various surgeon-generals, especially Dr. John S. Billings, now director of the New York Public Library, and through liberal appropriations by Congress. There have been issued a number of catalogs and indexes of the library, one of which, the *Index Medicus*, is now under the patronage of the Carnegie Institution. The "Index catalog" of the library, limited to 1500 copies, distributed with discrimination, is one



of the most stupendous bibliographical works ever undertaken, a monument to the department, to the enterprise of Dr. Billings, and to the scholarship of Dr. Robert Fletcher, the present librarian. This catalog is not only a list of the works to be found in the library, but also a complete bibliography of medicine. Although bibliographies of medical literature had been attempted by Gesner as early as 1545, and by Merklin, von Haller, Plocquet, Haeser, Young, Forbes, Atkinson, Callison, Watts and others, yet, in the language of Osler, "their efforts are Liliputian beside the Gargantuan undertaking of the Surgeon-General's Office."

Dr. Fletcher spoke of the library being in fact the "National medical library;" of the aid that it had received from the periodical publications of Great Britain and other foreign countries, and of the great benefit to the medical profession by the establishment of laboratories for research work.

Dr. Edwin A. Hill, in taking up his paper on "The chemical card index of the United States Patent Office," stated that he would give a brief digest of his paper "on a system of indexing chemical literature, adopted by the classification division of the U. S. Patent Office," which appeared in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, vol. 22, p. 478-494. He said that the index, now of about 500,000 cards, was an index not simply to chemical patents, but an index to the whole of chemical literature. On account of the variety of names of substances and the interminable work in searching chemical classes, the most direct system seems to be to recast the formulas of the compounds, writing the atoms in alphabetical order of the chemical symbols — disregarding the water of crystallization — and then arranging the formulas on an alphabetical basis. Dr. Hill illustrated by formulas and told of a number of devices used in his work.

Dr. William H. Seaman, of the U. S. Patent Office, gave an interesting biographical sketch of the late Colonel Weston Flint.

HAROLD TAYLOR DOUGHERTY,  
*Secretary pro tem.*

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*President:* Arthur J. Roberts, Colby College, Waterville.

*Secretary:* Gerald C. Wilder, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

*Treasurer:* Miss Alice C. Furbish, Public Library, Portland.

The 11th annual meeting of the association was held at Auburn, April 25 and 26. Sessions were held in the Public Library. The first session opened on Wednesday afternoon, April 25, with an address of welcome by Hon. John A. Morrill, to which Ernest W. Emery, state librarian, responded. Papers were read as follows: "The desk attendant in a small library," by Sarah E. Osgood, librarian Lewiston Public Library; "The public library and the Sunday school," by Rev. W. F. Livingston,

assistant state librarian; "Opening the public library on Sunday," by John Haley, librarian of the Dyer Library, Saco, read in the writer's absence by Dr. Hartshorne; "The college student and the library," by Edward W. Hall, librarian of Colby College.

A discussion on "The contribution of the trustees to the success of the library" was opened by Rev. E. C. Whitmore, of Waterville; and a question box was conducted by Alice C. Furbish. At the business meeting which followed an invitation was received to meet in Waterville next year, and a nominating committee was chosen.

In the evening a public meeting was held in Odd Fellows' Hall, at which an address was delivered by Arthur E. Bostwick, of the New York Public Library.

Thursday morning's session was opened with a talk, "Glimpses of some foreign libraries," by George T. Little, librarian of Bowdoin College. Papers were also read on "The mission of the library to the preparatory school," by Ella W. Ricker, librarian Fogg Memorial Library, South Berwick; "Teaching high school pupils the use of the library," by Elizabeth M. Pond, librarian Belfast Free Library; "Success attained by one library in co-operating with schools in rural communities." A general discussion followed on "The public library and the public schools," opened by Payson Smith, superintendent of schools, Auburn, and a question box was conducted. In accordance with the report of the nominating committee the following officers were elected: president, Arthur J. Roberts, Colby College; vice-presidents, J. H. Winchester, Corinna, Miss Annie Prescott, Auburn; secretary, Gerald G. Wilder, Bowdoin College; treasurer, Miss Alice C. Furbish, Public Library, Portland.

In addition to the usual resolution of thanks the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved,* That the Maine Library Association, on this earliest opportunity since the decease of Leonard D. Carver, its first president, expresses its appreciation of his important and lasting service to the library cause in this state, of the ability and faithfulness with which for many years he discharged the duties of state librarian, and of his personality, genial and generous, that made him the friend of every librarian in Maine.

*Resolved,* That the association desires to place upon its records its great satisfaction that recent appointments at the state library have recognized long-continued and faithful labor and are in accord with the true principles of civil service.

#### MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB

*President:* Horace G. Wadlin, Public Library, Boston.

*Secretary:* Miss Louisa M. Hooper, Public Library, Brookline.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mary E. Robbins, Simmons College, Boston.

A meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held at the Boston Public Library on Thursday afternoon, May 3.

Miss Mary Morison opened the meeting with a paper on the fiction of the year. By

concrete examples she showed how difficult is the work of selection.

Mr. Edward T. Hartman spoke on the Massachusetts Civic League and libraries. As secretary of the league he thought he had discovered work to be done by the libraries, which was not done, and he therefore felt justified in speaking before the club. The Massachusetts Civic League has two lines of work. 1, legislative, *i. e.*, the instructing of the legislators; 2, for civic improvement, to see that public institutions serve their functions and to get right thinking people to be active in such lines. The one need which Mr. Hartman thought the libraries could fill was to inspire interest in good literature (as though no librarian had ever thought of it before) and to direct the reading. He found little knowledge of civic improvement, and suggested that every library should have Robinson's "Improvement of cities and towns." The librarians should inform the citizens as to the bills under consideration by the state legislature. The library which can give up-to-date information on current affairs is better than one which can give out the fiction called for. He also recommended "the bulletin habit." His remarks caused considerable feeling, though every one recognized the limitations of his knowledge of the work of libraries. Mr. S. S. Green, of the state commission, therefore undertook to tell of the varied work of the state commission and of many individual libraries.

Miss Alice G. Chandler followed with a paper on the work of the committee on libraries of the Woman's Educational Association, which is so active in sending travelling libraries throughout the state.

Mr. Wadlin told the librarians present that there were three places in Boston which every one should visit—the town room, which is the center of the work of the Massachusetts Civic League, the office of the state commission, and that of the A. L. A. Publishing Board. He called upon Miss Browne to speak upon what should be found at the A. L. A. headquarters.

The session was closed by Miss A. H. Thwing, who told of the work of the Orr's Island (Maine) Library, which is becoming the social center of the place.

NINA E. BROWNE, *Recorder.*

#### NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*President:* Mrs. Annie Smith Ross, Carnegie Library, Charlotte.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Dr. Louis R. Wilson, University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill.

The second annual meeting of the association was held in the Olivia Raney Library, Raleigh, on Friday and Saturday, April 27 and 28, with an attendance of 25 members from all parts of the state and 13 representatives from other Southern states. The later were Miss Ida J. Dacus, of the Winthrop

Normal College Library, Rockhill, S. C.; Mr. J. P. Kennedy, state librarian of Virginia; Miss Julia Rankin, of the Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga., and the following young ladies composing the class from the Southern Library School of Atlanta: Miss Eloise Alexander, of Atlanta; Miss Mattie Bibb, of Montgomery, Ala.; Miss Florence Bradley, of Atlanta; Miss Marion Bucher, of Decatur, Ga.; Miss May Chapman, of Macon, Ga.; Miss Carolina Dailey, of McDonough, Ga.; Miss Jessie Hopkins, of Athens, Ga.; Miss Louise McMaster, of Winnsboro, S. C.; Miss Sara Manypenny, of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Miss May Martin, of Easley, S. C.

The address of welcome was made by Dr. Richard H. Battle, president of the Olivia Raney Library, of Raleigh. Following this address, Dr. Wilson, the secretary, presented a detailed report in which he showed that a new library spirit had been prevailing in the state for the past five years, and that within that brief period a great step forward in library work had been taken. He pointed out the fact that in 1900 there were no rural school libraries in the state, that there were but few city libraries, and that the college librarians were inactive. But within the short period of five years over 1,300 rural school libraries had sprung up; a dozen or more city libraries, with trained librarians and carefully chosen boards of trustees, had been established, and the college libraries had begun in a more serious way the work of winning the respect and the place in college life which should be theirs.

The president, Mrs. Ross, outlined in her report the work of the association during its two years of activity. The most significant note sounded by her was that the association, as an organization, had become impressed with its responsibility to the people it represented and that it had turned itself seriously to the consideration of the many problems with which it was confronted.

At the conclusion of the reading of these reports, Miss Julia T. Rankin, of Atlanta, with the class from the Southern Library School, discussed from various viewpoints the subject of "Library organization." This discussion, apart from the fact that it was very instructive in and of itself, was especially significant in that it gave an unmistakable proof of the fact that the day has come, not only in North Carolina, but in the whole South as represented by the class, when the training of the librarian has become considered as essential to the usefulness of the library as is the training of a teacher to the usefulness of the school.

At the evening session on Friday, Mrs. Lindsay Patterson, of Winston, and Dr. Edwin Mims, of Trinity College, Durham, spoke respectively on "The library and the woman's club" and "Public libraries of North Carolina." Mrs. Patterson, as a prominent worker in the women's clubs of the state, impressed

upon the club women the importance of the library as a means leading to a fine, broad culture, and urged them to become more interested in the general library movement. Dr. Mims spoke of the growth of public sentiment in favor of library development. He saw in the recent growth of the libraries the dawning of the day in North Carolina when a community would feel itself disgraced if it were without a public library. Both addresses were unusually stimulating. They will be published later and sent out by the association.

At the conclusion of the evening session a delightful informal reception was given the members of the association by the citizens of Raleigh.

At the morning session on Saturday the following papers were presented: "The library and the public school," by Professor E. P. Moses, of the city schools of Raleigh; "Rural libraries," by Mr. J. Y. Joyner, state superintendent of public instruction, of Raleigh; "College libraries," by Miss Ida J. Dacus, of the Winthrop Normal College, Rockhill, S. C.; "A state library commission," by Mr. John P. Kennedy, of the Virginia State Library. Discussions of these and other topics were participated in by Mr. M. O. Sherrill, of the North Carolina State Library, Miss Julia S. White, of the Guilford College Library, and other members of the association. The discussions relating to the establishment and management of rural school libraries and the activities of a library commission were especially interesting.

The final business session of the meeting was held Saturday afternoon. Among a number of resolutions passed at that session were the important ones of preparing a statement to be presented to the next General Assembly showing the need of a new fireproof building for the state library; of presenting a statement to the General Assembly relative to the creation of a state library commission, and of extending an invitation to the American Library Association to hold its annual meeting for 1907 at Asheville, N. C. The last resolution, given in full, is as follows:

"Recognizing the fact that the library movement in the South has grown with unusual rapidity in recent years and that at present it would be stimulated to larger achievement by the inspiration and encouragement which a serious meeting of the American Library Association in the South would give it; and

"Inasmuch as the city of Asheville, N. C., the most beautiful of all the cities of the far-famed 'Land of the sky,' has, through its local library association and other organizations, expressed its very great desire that the American Library Association Conference for the year 1907 be held within its borders, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the North Carolina Library Association join with the various organizations of the city of Asheville in their most cordial invitation with the sincere hope that the meeting will be most beneficial and inspiring to all the sections of the country represented; and be it further

"Resolved, That this association call upon the State Literary and Historical Association, the North

Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs, and other educational bodies and leaders, to present with it, through the president and secretary, invitations of similar import to the officers of the American Library Association at its approaching meeting at Narragansett Pier.

"Voted unanimously, Raleigh, N. C., April 28, 1906."

Having completed all of its proposed work for the session, the association proceeded before adjournment to the election of the following officers for the coming year: president, Mrs. Annie Smith Ross, of the Carnegie Library, Charlotte; vice-presidents, Dr. C. D. McIver, of the State Normal College, Greensboro, and Mrs. Solomon Weil, of the state federation of women's clubs, Goldsboro; secretary-treasurer, Dr. Louis R. Wilson, of the University of North Carolina Library, Chapel Hill.

LOUIS R. WILSON, *Secretary*.

## Library Clubs

### ANN ARBOR LIBRARY CLUB

*President:* B. A. Finney, University of Michigan Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Franc Pattison, University of Michigan Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Amanda Belser, University of Michigan Library.

The following report covers the activities of the club for the past year:

At a special meeting of the club in June, 1905, the members of the library staff of the university presented Mr. R. C. Davis, who retired from the administration of the library after 28 years of continuous service, with a leather chair as a mark of their esteem. Mr. Davis continues as librarian emeritus, and as professor of bibliography gives the course in bibliography, somewhat enlarged, which he introduced into the American collegiate curriculum in 1879.

At the December meeting Mr. Davis gave a very interesting paper on "Land and sea serpents," and Mr. Koch, the new librarian of the university, exhibited some foreign and private bookplates, of which his collection now numbers over a thousand.

The January, 1906, meeting was held on the 17th, and was devoted to Benjamin Franklin, with an interesting paper by Professor C. H. Van Tyne, of the history department of the university.

The subject of the February meeting was "Library schools," and the different schools were represented by those members who had attended them. This was partly for the benefit of several students who are expecting to attend some library school after graduation, and the discussion was at times most animated.

On March 7 Miss Frances Olcott, director of the training school for children's librarians of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, made Ann Arbor a visit, and lectured in the after-

noon at the Barbour Gymnasium, after which a pleasant reception was held. In the evening she was the guest of the club.

The April meeting took the form of a trip to Detroit, on the invitation of the Detroit Library Club. About 20 members formed the party, and after inspecting the Detroit Public Library were served there with a delightful luncheon, to which about 40 sat down. The visitors were shown through the printing establishment of the *Detroit News* and the Cranbrook Press, and in the afternoon visited the private library and art collection of Mr. James E. Scripps, the Woodward Avenue Branch Library, and the Art Museum. The day was concluded with the regular meeting of the Detroit Library Club in the evening. There was a good paper on French libraries by Miss Briggs, followed by discussion and refreshments. The Ann Arbor club appreciated the hospitality and courtesies of Librarian Utley and his staff, and bears testimony that inter-library meetings are worth while and should be held often.

FRANC PATTISON, *Secretary*.

#### LONG ISLAND LIBRARY CLUB

*President:* Miss Eleanor B. Woodruff, Pratt Institute Free Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Mildred A. Collar, Pratt Institute Library School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mary A. Kingsbury, Erasmus Hall High School Library.

The sixth annual meeting of the Long Island Library Club was held in the auditorium of the Medical Society of the County of Kings, Brooklyn, on Friday evening, April 27, 1906. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. A. T. Huntington. After a brief report by the treasurer, Miss Mary W. Plummer, chairman of the nominating committee, presented a list of officers for the ensuing year, who were duly elected, as follows: president, Miss Eleanor B. Woodruff, Pratt Institute Free Library; vice-president, Mr. Herbert W. Fison, Williamsburgh Branch, Brooklyn Public Library; secretary, Miss Mildred A. Collar, Pratt Institute Library School; treasurer, Miss Mary A. Kingsbury, Erasmus Hall High School Library.

The president, in announcing the general topic, "The library resources of Brooklyn and Queens," spoke of the advantages to be derived from wider acquaintance with the special features of the different libraries, thus affording opportunity for greater co-operation between them.

The first speaker, Miss Jessie F. Hume, gave an account of the development of the Queens Borough Library, which was organized in 1896. There are now 11 branches covering a wide area and presenting problems which are quite different from those in the other boroughs. Its trustees decided that instead of building three large Carnegie branches with their proportion of the Carnegie

gift, it was better to build eight small ones, four of which have now been completed. The circulation in Queens Borough has increased from 20,000 the first year to 320,000 in 1905.

Mr. Frank P. Hill outlined the history of the Brooklyn Public Library, stating that it is the successor of three libraries. The Athenæum was founded in 1852, and the Mercantile Library Association organized in 1857 on the lines of the Mercantile Library of New York, which continued until 1878, when the name was changed to the Brooklyn Library, which continued until it was consolidated with the Brooklyn Public Library in 1903. In 1892 a law was passed permitting the establishment of a free public library, but no means were provided for carrying it on. In 1896 the Brooklyn Library Association, under Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, president, petitioned the legislature for a charter on the plan of 1892, and a board of directors was appointed. Much credit is due the members of this board, nearly all of whom were women, for the work accomplished. The first year \$5000 was appropriated, of which \$4000 was spent for books and nearly \$1000 for periodicals, the books being cataloged and prepared by the women without pay. At the present time there are 25 branches, a library for the blind, travelling libraries and an administration department, but as yet no central library, as in most cities.

Miss Isabel Ely Lord stated that the Pratt Institute Library, unlike other libraries in the community, was founded through the generosity of one man, Mr. Charles Pratt. The technical school was established in 1887 and the Free Library the following year. Until the Brooklyn Public Library was started it was almost the only free library in the city. Since the foundation of the Public Library the Pratt Institute has turned its resources in special directions. It has always done a large amount of reference work, and it now has five rooms for reference use. Of the 85,000 volumes in the library, one-third are reference books. The art reference room contains a fine collection of art books and photographs, which are free for the use of all students. Through the applied science reference room an effort is made to reach all persons in that locality who are engaged in any trade. The room is equipped with 300 periodicals and trade journals.

Miss Susan A. Hutchinson stated that the library of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences has a special work in supplementing the museum collections. The library now contains about 16,000 volumes, largely scholarly and monographic, and inclusive of some popular books. The nucleus of this library was the oldest library in Brooklyn, founded in 1823, which later developed into the Youth's Free Library. In 1900 the books were divided, and a portion were retained at the Central Museum and others formed the nucleus of the Children's Museum Library. The



library is provided with numerous zoological bibliographies and indexes, and the Zurich catalog of scientific literature. It contains a file of government publications relating to science, is strong in architectural books, and now has 2100 maps.

The Children's Museum and Library are unique from the fact that it is the only special museum and library devoted to the needs of children. Miss Miriam S. Draper briefly outlined the work of this library, which combines the features of an excellent nature library and a school reference library.

Miss Emma Toedteberg ably presented the status of the Long Island Historical Society Library. This library was founded 43 years ago, and contains rare folios, manuscripts, choir books, and a copy of Audubon's "Birds" in fine condition. It is rich in American manuscripts and Revolutionary collections, having 123 original letters of George Washington.

Dr. James P. Warbasse spoke for the library of the Medical Society of the County of Kings, which was founded in 1845 and moved to the present building in 1900. Many private libraries have been secured, so that it now contains 65,000 volumes and 35,000 pamphlets, and is one of the largest medical libraries in the world. It is housed in a fireproof building and three medical journals are published there. Books are loaned to 7000 members and expressed to all parts of the state. The library is free not only to every doctor, but entirely free to laymen as well.

The chairman stated that it is proposed to print a small handbook which shall give the resources of Brooklyn libraries, and include not only those mentioned in the program of the evening, but also the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. libraries and those connected with educational institutions like Adelphi College, Packer Institute, the Polytechnic, etc.

Through the kindness of Mr. Huntington lantern slides were provided to illustrate the work of the Brooklyn Public, Pratt Institute, and Queens Borough libraries. The thanks of the club were tendered to Mr. Huntington for his generosity in furnishing the slides, and to the Kings County Medical Society for their hospitality. At the conclusion of the formal program the audience adjourned to the banquet hall, where light refreshments were served.

MIRIAM S. DRAPER, *Acting Secretary.*

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB

*President:* Henry W. Kent, Metropolitan Museum of Art.

*Secretary:* Miss Alice Wilde, New York Public Library, Washington Heights Branch.

*Treasurer:* Victor H. Paltsits, New York Public Library, Lenox Building.

The annual dinner of the New York Library Club, this year celebrating the club's attainment of its majority, was held on the evening of Tuesday, April 17, in the rooms of

the Aldine Association, 118 Fifth avenue, about 100 members and guests being present. The speakers were Mr. Wallace Irwin, Mr. Norman Hapgood, Miss Louise Connolly, Miss Ruth Putnam, and Miss Marie Shedlock, who delighted the company, in response to their applause after her speech, by telling, as only she could, Hans Andersen's story of "The true princess."

ALICE WILDE, *Secretary.*

#### TWIN CITY LIBRARY CLUB

*President:* W. W. Folwell, State University Library, Minneapolis.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Clara F. Baldwin, State Public Library Commission, St. Paul.

The second meeting of the club was held at the publishing house of the H. W. Wilson Co., Minneapolis, on Monday, March 4, 1906. Supper was served in the hall on the second floor at seven o'clock, and at the short business session following the supper Mr. D. L. Kingsbury, assistant librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society, presided in the absence of both president and vice-president. Dancing and a social hour followed in the adjoining ballroom. The members of the club then adjourned to the basement to inspect the printing and binding department, and afterwards assembled in the editorial rooms, where talks were given by Mrs. H. W. Wilson and Miss Clara Fanning, on the methods employed in compiling the *Cumulative Book-Review Digest*; by Miss Anna L. Guthrie, on the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*; and by Miss Marion Potter on the "United States catalog" and *Cumulative Book-Index*. All of these talks were full of interest and tended to increase the already profound respect of all librarians present for these valuable publications.

The third meeting of the club was held in the rooms of the Minnesota Historical Society, at the capitol, St. Paul, on Monday evening, April 2, 1906. After a social hour visiting the various departments of the library, including the museum, the meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Folwell, in the reading room of the society. D. L. Kingsbury, assistant librarian, spoke on the general library and especially the collection of government publications. Many members of the club were surprised to learn that the library has files of the documents and journals of the Senate and House for the first 14 congresses nearly complete. J. B. Chaney told of the newspaper collections, which from a small start in 1868 have grown to 7000 volumes. The society is now receiving more than 500 papers weekly. Short talks were given by Miss Annie Vose on the cataloging of the library, and by Miss Emma Hawley on the reclassification, which is now in progress. Miss Emma E. Vose talked about the scrap-books of the society, and Mrs. Rose B. Dun-

lap spoke on the literary work, especially Minnesota biographies and the life of Governor Ramsey. Rev. E. C. Mitchell told something about the collections in the museum, which he started when he found an Indian axe in 1847. Warren Upham, secretary of the society, spoke of its general progress during the last 10 years. Dr. Folwell urged the club members to ask the legislature for a larger appropriation for the historical society, especially to provide money for indexing the newspapers of the society, and to catalog the letters of General Sibley and Governor Ramsey. These papers, he said, would be worth \$50,000, and should be placed in a fireproof vault. CLARA F. BALDWIN, *Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN WORCESTER LIBRARY CLUB

*President:* Miss Harriet B. Sornborger, Bancroft Memorial Library, Hopedale.

*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Putnam, Free Public Library, Uxbridge.

The Southern Worcester Library Club, composed of librarians from the southern part of Worcester county, Mass., and immediate vicinity, was informally organized at a meeting held in the Bancroft Memorial Library, of Hopedale, Mass., on March 1, 1906. The librarians present upon invitation of Miss Harriet B. Sornborger, of Hopedale, were Miss Bertha Franklin, of Bellingham; Miss Ethelwyn Blake, of Milford; Mrs. Laura C. Saddler, of Upton; Mrs. Gertrude C. Bowker, of Upton, and Miss Beatrice Putnam, of Uxbridge. Library methods were freely discussed and the proposition was made by the hostess that a club should be formed, and that the reading course now being published in *Public Libraries* should be made somewhat the basis of work.

On May 3 a second meeting of the club was held in the Thayer Memorial Building in Uxbridge, Mass. The subject considered was "Relation of the school and the library." Librarians, trustees, school superintendents and teachers were present from the vicinity to the number of about 50. Miss Sornborger presided and introduced as the first speaker Rev. C. A. Roys, president of the board of trustees of the Uxbridge Free Public Library, who welcomed the guests. A paper was read by Mr. C. F. Taylor, superintendent of the schools of Hopedale, Bellingham and Mendon. Mrs. Mary E. S. Root gave a delightful talk upon her work as children's librarian in the Providence Public Library; and in the discussion which followed Mr. S. A. Melcher, superintendent of the Northbridge schools, and Mr. F. S. Brick, superintendent of the Uxbridge and Douglas schools, took part. The weight of the argument seemed to be in favor of having the librarian act as an expert to open the library to both teachers and pupils, rather than that so much should be required of the teacher alone.

BEATRICE PUTNAM, *Secretary*.

## Library Schools and Training Classes

### CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH TRAINING SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS

Mr. Gilbert D. Emerson, bookbinder, Philadelphia, Pa., gave two lectures, April 2-3, on "Materials for bookbinding" and "How to mend books in public libraries." April 16-19 Miss Clara W. Hunt, one of the regular visiting lecturers of the school, gave six lectures, as follows: "Planning and equipment of the children's room," "The successful children's librarian," "Some problems of administration," "The personal relation of the staff with the children," "Selection of books for the children's room," and "First one hundred books for the children's room." The students had the privilege also of meeting Miss Hunt socially one evening during her stay here.

During the same week there was a pleasant visit from Miss Linda A. Eastman, of the Cleveland Public Library, and the students of the Library School of the Western Reserve University. They spent two days in Pittsburgh inspecting the central library and its branches.

Entrance examinations for the coming year will be held on Saturday, May 26.

### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The students began their out-of-town visits on April 23 by going to Trenton and Princeton. At Trenton the Public Library was of special interest. Mr. Strohm and the members of his staff were most hospitable in their reception of the class, and the students carried away a delightful impression of an active working public library. From Trenton the class proceeded to Princeton, where a different type of library, the university library, was inspected under the able guidance of Dr. Richardson and his assistants. The biennial visit to the libraries of New York City and vicinity began May 2. During the past month the students have also visited the Free Library of Philadelphia and some of its branches and the University of Pennsylvania Library, where they have been given every opportunity to study methods.

Miss Eastman, accompanied by some of the students of the Western Reserve Library School, visited the school during the Easter holidays. It was much to the regret of the students that on account of the holidays they were unable to meet the visitors.

Mr. W. R. Eastman, of the New York State Library, gave on April 20 a helpful talk on library buildings, illustrated by lantern slides.

Miss Engle, who has charge of the children's work in the Free Library of Philadelphia, gave an informal talk on that work to the class on April 26.

Mr. Herbert Putnam visited the school on

April 30, and spoke to the class on the work of the Library of Congress.

Alice B. Kroeger, *Director.*

#### INDIANA LIBRARY SCHOOL

The Library School of the Winona Technical Institute at Indianapolis was completely destroyed by a fire which occurred April 11 at three o'clock in the morning. At eight o'clock the library school students assembled in the president's residence and voted to continue their course. Fortunately the Easter vacation, which began April 12, allowed the directors of the Winona Technical Institute and the library school time to readjust losses.

Commodious quarters have been assigned in the Graphic Arts building. The equipment of the library school, including a collection of some 1500 volumes, which was completely destroyed, will be replaced. Owing to the loss by fire of the 40 or more applications for next year's course, if the class is not filled after the first examination other examinations will be held Aug. 14 and Sept. 12.

The kind offers of books and study outlines from librarians throughout the country have been greatly appreciated by the Winona Technical Institute and Library School.

MERICA HOAGLAND,

*Director Library School.*

#### IOWA SUMMER SCHOOL

The Iowa Library Commission announces the sixth annual session of the summer school for library training, to be held at the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, June 18 to July 28, 1906. Miss Alice S. Tyler, secretary of the commission, will have charge of the course, assisted by Malcolm G. Wyer, librarian of the state university, in reference work and bibliography; Miss Maude Van Buren, in cataloging; and Miss Irene Warren, in classification. A special course in library work for children will be given during the last two weeks of the session, July 16 to July 28, by Miss Edna Lyman, children's librarian of the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library, and there will be a new course for teachers who are in attendance at other departments of the summer school, on the care and use of libraries from the teachers' standpoint, to be given by Miss Irene Warren, whose work as librarian of the School of Education, University of Chicago, particularly qualifies her to give such instruction. Further information regarding the summer library school may be had on application to Miss Alice S. Tyler, secretary, Iowa Library Commission, Des Moines.

#### MINNESOTA SUMMER SCHOOL

The Minnesota Public Library Commission announces the seventh annual session of the summer school for library training, to be held at Minnesota State University, June 19 to July 31, 1906, as a department of the summer school. The course will be under the direction of the secretary of the commission, Miss Clara F. Baldwin, who will give the lectures

on classification, accession, shelf-list, and the general organization and administration of a library. Mrs. Karen M. Jacobson, of the commission, will give the lectures on cataloging, book selection and binding. Miss Margaret Palmer, librarian of the Rochester Public Library and a graduate of Pratt Institute Library School, will give the lectures on reference work. Miss Edna Lyman, who has been successful in children's work in the Oak Park (Ill.) Public Library, will give the lectures on children's work, with special emphasis on books for children. Special instruction on the lettering of books, labels, and bulletins will be given by Miss Mary Moulton Cheney, of the Minneapolis School of Fine Arts. A three weeks' course for teachers or high school students in charge of school libraries will be given during the last three weeks of the school, July 9-27.

Further information may be had on application to Miss Clara F. Baldwin, Minnesota Public Library Commission, St. Paul.

#### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The New York State Library School has issued a circular of information for 1906-7, which is the first printed announcement of the changes or modifications adopted under the new régime. These are mainly in the line of providing for what may be called graduate work by admitting to the senior class students of previous library school training or library experience. The regulations regarding admissions to the senior class are as follows:

"1. Completion of junior work does not necessarily imply admission to the senior class. Class work and examinations and those personal qualifications which make or mar success will be weighed, and only those who seem well adapted to library work will be received for the second year.

"2. Candidates from other registered library schools, if certified as having satisfactorily completed a sufficient number of courses of study, may be admitted to the senior class of the New York State Library School, provided they are graduates of a registered college, and meet the entrance requirements in other respects. Before graduation they must complete the class work and pass examinations in all junior and senior subjects or submit equivalent credentials.

"3. In exceptional cases candidates without previous library school training who have had sufficient library experience may, upon proper recommendation, be admitted to the senior class of the New York State Library School if they are graduates of a registered college and meet the entrance requirements in other respects. Before graduation they must complete the senior class work, such junior class work as the faculty may require, and pass examinations in all junior and senior subjects or submit equivalent credentials."

Special students will be taken only as conditions may permit. Entrance examinations are given only for candidates whose college

course has not covered the subjects and amount of work specified in the announcement; for 1906 they will be held May 28-29, and later in the fall a few days before the opening of the school. The summer course will be omitted this year. There is no correspondence course.

The list of the faculty is given as follows: Edwin H. Anderson, director; J. I. Wyer, Jr., vice-director; Florence Woodworth, director's assistant; W. S. Biscoe, instructor in bibliography, advanced classification, history of libraries and printing; Ada Alice Jones, secretary of faculty and instructor in advanced cataloging; W. R. Eastman, instructor in library buildings, founding and government; Martha T. Wheeler, instructor in selection of books, indexing; Ada Bunnell, instructor in elementary classification; Corinne Bacon, in charge of program and summer course and instructor in elementary cataloging, order and accession, shelf and loan department work; Edna M. Sanderson, registrar.

#### SENIOR BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The object in requiring from each senior the preparation of an original bibliography is to render the students familiar with the use of the tools and material necessary in such work; to give them such an idea as only actual work can, of the minor points as well as the chief features which mark a good bibliography, such, for instance, as selection of material, classification, annotation and technical perfection. In the selection of topics, the effort is made to cover a subject or field which has not before been similarly treated, so that the bibliography may be a real contribution. It is the best of these bibliographies which have been printed in the 39 numbers of the "Bibliography bulletins" issued by the New York State Library during the last 11 years. The subjects chosen by the members of the class of 1906 are as follows:

- Miss Beal, The canals and waterways of New York.
- Miss Eastwood, Characterizations of great people in poetry.
- Miss Eaton, Reading list on art for children.
- Miss Gamwell, A selected bibliography of gardens and gardening.
- Mr. Goodrich, A reading list on the old northwest.
- Miss Henry, Child labor.
- Miss Hiss, Esperanto.
- Miss Knowlton, Reading list on popular botany and zoology.
- Miss Leonard, Bibliography of education for 1905.
- Miss Mulliken, Some contemporary dramatists.
- Miss Nelson, Mormons and Mormonism.
- Miss Nerney, Handbook of genealogies in the New York State Library.
- Miss Thomas, Trans-Mississippi frontier ranch life.
- Mr. Walter, Northampton, Mass.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The spring term opened according to calendar April 2. Eighteen of the students of the general course visited libraries in New Jersey and Pennsylvania during the previous week's vacation under the guidance of the director. The trip extended from March 24 to 31, and included Princeton, Trenton, Philadelphia, Bryn Mawr, Wilkes-Barre, and Scranton. Many pleasant social occasions were sandwiched in among the visits, and the director desires hereby to acknowledge appreciatively the kindness and hospitality met with everywhere.

The coming term includes several courses of lectures, among them the usual ones on "Library buildings," by Mr. W. R. Eastman, and on the "History of libraries," by the director. A new course is that to be given by Miss Ida M. Mendenhall ('04), embodying the normal school course given by her under the Indiana State Library Commission. This consists of six lectures on: 1, Co-operation between the library and the school; 2, Reading of children; 3, Principles of selection in children's books; 4, Reading lists helpful in the selection of children's books; 5, Picture bulletins; 6, Reference work with children.

A number of the general course students have had on hand an interesting piece of work in the reorganization of the library of the Willow Place Chapel, Brooklyn.

The students of the advanced class during the coming term will have some practical work in the following libraries: Brooklyn Public Library, reference and children's departments; Columbia University Library, cataloging department; Lenox Library, manuscript department.

#### SOUTHERN LIBRARY SCHOOL

The Southern Library School entertained Mr. Andrew Carnegie at an informal buffet luncheon in the class room April 6. The occasion was delightfully informal, and the class room never looked prettier with the lunch table decorated with apple blossoms and violets, and a big log fire burning cheerily in the open fireplace.

The class went on its Easter vacation April 12.

The students attended the meeting of the North Carolina Library Association at Raleigh April 27-28.

#### UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING SUMMER SCHOOL

A course in library methods is to be given at the summer school of the University of Wyoming, Laramie, from June 25 to August 3, under direction of the librarian, Grace Raymond Hebard.

#### WASHINGTON STATE SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL

The Washington State Summer School for Library Training announces its second an-



nual session at the University of Washington, Seattle, from June 25 to Aug. 3, 1906.

Miss Harriet E. Howe, of the Illinois State Library School, has been re-engaged as director. She will be assisted in the work of instruction by Charles W. Smith, acting librarian of the university, and by Miss McDonnell, also of the university library. Several lecturers have been secured, including State Librarian Hitt and Mr. Smith, of the Seattle Public Library. Courses have been outlined which will appeal to two classes of students: 1, beginners; 2, those who took the work last summer or who have had its clear equivalent. For the first class the work of last year will be repeated without essential change. For the second class, advanced courses will be inaugurated in library economy, reference work, and public documents. The equipment of the school has been strengthened by the purchase of some 300 books for laboratory use. Money has also been voted for the purchase of an extended exhibit of library economy. This exhibit has been collected at the Illinois library school during the past year and will be forwarded in time for the summer session. The number of students in each class will be limited to 17; advanced registration required. Further particulars may be obtained by addressing Librarian, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.

## Reviews

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY, Bulletin 102, Library School 21. United States government documents; by James Ingersoll Wyer, Jr. Albany, 1906. 78 p. O.

This bulletin gives the text of the New York State Library School alumni lectures of 1905, revised, and with statement of the practice work required, and it should rank as the most useful, practical, and complete manual on the characteristics and handling of public documents that has yet appeared. There are five main divisions: Production and nature, Acquisition, Arrangement and classification, Cataloging, Use; and the appendixes deal with the class work required and the bibliography of the subject. Each division is prefaced by indication of desirable references, and is considered in compact and logical order. The exposition of the subject is wholly instructional—practical and untheoretical, with insistence upon the need of personal acquaintance with and handling of documents. Especially useful is the recommended list of sets for small libraries, with excellent annotations, while the hints on obtaining, weeding out, and utilizing documents are thoroughly practical and sensible. These and some other parts of the lectures were published a year or so ago in pamphlet form, as "U. S. documents in

small libraries," first by the Minnesota Public Library Commission and then by the League of Library Commissions; but these pamphlets are now out of print, and indeed the full text as here given contains nothing that could well be spared. Careful and intelligent study of this bulletin should enable any librarian to face the problems of a document collection with assurance that it can readily be made a source of help and a most useful part of the library's equipment. Mr. Wyer recommends careful selection and simplicity of record for the small library, emphasizing particularly the importance of steady refusal, on the librarian's part, to cumber shelves with volumes that are dumped upon the library by well-meaning Congressmen, and that will never be used or needed. In cataloging, simplicity and uniformity of entry are dwelt upon, with clear statement of the diverging arguments for "inversion" and "non-inversion," a selected list of recommended author headings, and numerous practical examples. The careful classed and annotated list of existing indexes to public documents shows how much has been done within the last decade to make available the immense amount of information that exists in this material, and the present bulletin is a most effective means to the same end.

## Library Economy and History

### GENERAL

BAKER, Ernest A. Direction for popular readers. (*Contemporary Review*, April, 1906. p. 498-504.)

A plea for good non-technical, non-specialist reading lists or bibliographies, anent the recent work of the National Home-Reading Union in publishing a series of graduated booklists prepared by experts for children, desultory readers, and students. The annotated A. L. A. bibliographies are described with approval, but with the general objection that they (especially the "Bibliography of fine arts" and "Literature of American history") are too exclusively for scholars. Singularly enough the "A. L. A. catalog," the chief work of the Association for the popular reader, is not mentioned.

The *Bulletin des Bibliothèques Populaires*, published monthly (except August and September) under the auspices of the Musée Pédagogique, Paris (E. Cornély, 101 Rue de Vaugirard), hardly fulfils in its March and April issues the promise of its title. In the first number (Jan.-Feb.) there was given a full and most interesting report of library conditions in France, and the purpose of the *Bulletin* was stated as twofold: first, to promote the interests of popular libraries, serving

as a bond between the libraries and their friends, and publishing at intervals articles of doctrine or information relating to the work of popular libraries in France and elsewhere; second, and principally, to serve as a critical bulletin of new French books, for the use of persons administering or availing themselves of public, popular, or school libraries in France or elsewhere. The March and April numbers are entirely devoted to a classed, selected, and fully annotated record of new publications, careful, and useful in selection of French books. It is evident, however, that the *Bulletin* will not touch adequately upon subjects of library technique, organization, and administration.

FARR, Harry. The libraries and the counties; to be read at the monthly meeting of the Library Association in London, on March 19, 1906. Cardiff, 1906. 10 p. D.

A plea for the extension of the benefits of the Libraries Acts to the rural districts, by organizing villages throughout the country into library districts under the county councils.

The *Library Association Record* for March, besides the article on "Library binderies," noted elsewhere, contains a paper on "Sunday opening of free libraries," by A. Capel Shaw, who describes the principles worked out in the Birmingham Public Libraries, and gives sensible doctrine on this much-discussed subject. In Birmingham the reference library is open for reading and reference use from 3 to 9 p.m. on Sunday. While Sunday reading is distinctly recreative in character, the Birmingham Reference Library does not contain current fiction, save as this is to be found in periodicals. The question to be considered as regards Sunday opening "is not now so much *Is it right?* or *Is it wrong?* but *Is the use likely to be made of the library on Sunday commensurate with its cost?*" Mr. Shaw thinks that in many small towns with inadequate funds the extra cost entailed must make Sunday opening prohibitive. In Birmingham a Sunday staff of five Jews is employed who are paid in money, under the direction of one of the senior officers of the regular staff, who is paid in time, and this is thought to be "possibly the most economical arrangement that could be made;" the cost "seldom exceeds a guinea a Sunday."

LITERATURE OF LIBRARIES, 17th and 18th centuries; ed. by Henry W. Kent and John Cotton Dana. Chicago, A. C. McClurg & Co., 1906. In 6 v., v. 1 and 2, 8", regular edition, limited to 250 sets, \$12 net; large paper edition, limited to 25 sets, \$25 net.

Vol. 1, "Concerning the duties and qualifications of a librarian," by Cotton de Hous-

saye; vol. 2, "The reformed library keeper," by Durie. This set is to be devoted to reprints of rare and out-of-print works on libraries and their management, intended to make available to librarians the early authorities on these subjects.

*Public Libraries* for April is mainly devoted to the work for children being carried on by public libraries, including articles on "Picture books good and bad," by Caroline F. Gleason; "Fairy tales;" "How shall children be led to love good books?" by Isabel Lawrence; and reports from six libraries on the work they are doing in this direction.

THOMSON, John. Hither and thither: a collection of comments on books and bookish matters. Philadelphia, G. W. Jacobs & Co., [1906.] 8+388 p. D.

Among the essays or addresses included are "A plea for free libraries" and "The value of reading fiction." Many of the articles are reviews or semi-bibliographical accounts, embracing such subjects as the Masters of the Rolls series, Early chronicles, Botany and booklore, Children's literature, Orogania's San Marco, Liturgical manuscripts, etc.

#### LOCAL

*Atlantic City (N. J.) P. L.* (4th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 3258; total 9000. Issued, home use 89,601 (almost double that of 1904.) New cards issued 2887; cards in use 5556. This does not include the 765 cards issued to non-residents who make the two-dollar deposit.

This first 12 months' use of the new building has demonstrated its practical utility, as already enlargement and rearrangement to give increased facilities are indicated. Miss Abbott, however, urges extension of work in all directions — in removing the age limit of 10 years for children, many of whom have been regretfully turned away when they have presented themselves at the library saying, "I've come to start in." That the children appreciate their privileges in the library has been abundantly shown. It is also suggested that restrictions for adult cards be removed so that even those persons whose names are not in the directory, but who are employed in Atlantic City, may draw books. The work with the schools has gone on apace, special attention being given to the needs of the teachers. Picture collections are being made for school use, and an industrial exhibit of woods, animal and vegetable products and minerals has been purchased and placed in cases in the children's room. In the cataloging department most of the current purchases have been carded. A modern development of library work has been brought by the telephone, which is used not only for ordering books, but in requesting data from the reference room.

*Boston Medical L.* The special committee appointed to consider a suitable memorial to the late librarian, Dr. James Read Chadwick, have recommended that the periodical room of the library be called the Chadwick periodical room, and that a bust or portrait of Dr. Chadwick with a suitable tablet be placed therein. It is further recommended that a fund to be known as the Chadwick book fund be raised, to provide for the purchase of periodicals, completion of files, and the binding of periodicals, a department in which the library always has been lacking in means, and that a suitable bookplate be placed in every bound volume. It is also recommended that a memorial window be placed in Holmes hall reading room.

*Brookline (Mass.) P. L.* (49th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1906.) Added 4222; total 62,661. Issued, home use 138,798 (fict. "less than 50 per cent."). New cards issued 1279.

Of the total circulation, 17,156 v. were issued from the two delivery stations, and from the school reference room 7197 v. were issued to teachers. The attendance in the children's room was 20,509, and 9195 books were issued to children under 12 years of age. The reclassification and recataloging of the library, begun in May, 1901, was completed in September, 1905; the cost of this work is estimated at from 20 to 30 cents per book for non-fiction, which includes mending and labelling.

"A careful account was kept of the time spent in reclassifying and recataloging 65 somewhat popular scientific volumes (59 titles) which were in fairly good condition. The average cost for these was 20 cents per book."

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* (8th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added by purchase 67,550, by gift 3541 v.; total 476,969 v.; 26,785 pm. Issued, home use 2,579,068 (fict. 67+ per cent.; juv. 36 per cent.). New registration 75,542; total borrowers 190,265. Receipts \$309,388 (of which \$286,888 is original city appropriation, to which were added two special appropriations for Carnegie branches and books); expenses \$294,398.11 (salaries \$151,688.36, of which \$23,372.50 was for the administration department; books \$63,296.40, periodicals \$7239.45, binding \$17,518.03, light and heat \$5189.70, stationery and printing \$11,229.64, supplies \$12,690.68, rent \$15,210.84).

A record of large growth and steady development. Mr. Hill points out that the library is now second in rank among the public libraries of the country, New York holding the first place. A suitable central building to serve as a depository and administration center is a pressing need, and an important step toward its realization was taken in the selection of a site adjoining Prospect Park plaza, which is regarded as "adequate to meet the requirements of the library for at least fifty years to come." During the year six Carnegie branch buildings were erected, mak-

ing a total of seven already completed. The establishment of a branch in a new and attractive building has in every case meant a great increase in circulation—in some cases practically a doubling of the former issues. The library system now contains 25 branches, and it is considered probable that a total of 43 may be needed in the near future to keep pace with the growth of the city. The Carnegie branch buildings opened during the year were: Williamsburgh, Bedford, DeKalb, Carroll Park, Flatbush, and South; in May the library (7000 v.) of the Hebrew Educational Department was turned over to the Public Library and received the name "Brownsville branch." The addition to the Montague branch, extending the reading room and giving a large children's room, was opened early in the year, and in April the library for the blind was opened at the Pacific branch. The circulation of the library system showed an increase of 483,944 over the preceding year and was the largest in its history; issue of fiction shows an increase of 1 per cent. There were 4321 v. lost during the year, of which 1424 were charged to borrowers and never returned. The binding is practically all done at the Chivers bindery, near the library's administration building, and it is found to be extremely satisfactory and "cheaper in the end, as a book bound in the Chivers way never needs rebinding."

Requests for books not in a given branch, or desired for teachers or other special use, are met by the interchange department, which sent 16,349 v. to distant readers during the year. To the travelling libraries department 1265 v. were added, giving a total of 10,025, which had a circulation of 60,976—a decrease from the previous year. These books go to clubs, societies, schools, recreation centers, and similar points of distribution. The library staff is now 227, an increase of 22 appointments during the year. Weekly meetings of the chief librarian and heads of departments are held, and monthly meetings of the chief librarian and branch librarians; and it is planned to arrange for general meetings bringing assistants into more direct contact with the chief librarian and superintendents. Mr. Hill makes only one recommendation, that trustees visit the branches as often as possible, to come in closer touch with the work of the library staff and the activities of the library.

The various reports of superintendents and branch librarians, which follow in due order, are very interesting. Miss Hunt, for the children's department, calls attention to the continued effort to raise the standard of quality in the children's books circulated, and to the greatly improved work of the children's librarians. "It has been very interesting to study the practical working out of the different building plans as they affect the work with the children. At Pacific we have a chil-

dren's room on the second floor, with its entire work—not in *spirit*, fortunately—separated from that of the adult department. At Montague the division is even greater, the children having an entrance on another street from the main department. East and Ridge-wood have also the separate entrance and charging desks for the children's rooms. In the remaining branches the children have their books charged at the general delivery desk, using their special room for reading, reference work and selecting books. We have long thought that some combination of the two plans would be best, since such a separation as exists at Pacific and Montague makes it rather difficult to bridge over the gap for the 'between age' children, while the keeping of adults waiting in line, at Williamsburgh for instance, when over 600 juvenile books may be circulated in one afternoon and evening, seems rather hard on the adults. We hope to plan in our next new large building to retain the desirable feature of having the children's room on the same floor with, and visible to the adults, but using the general delivery desk only during the quiet months, there being a separate charging desk in the children's room in winter."

The report of the cataloging department, by Miss Hitchler, superintendent, is a careful exposition of the great volume of detail work often ignored in the consideration of library routine. It centers upon the "frequently recurring question" of the cost of cataloging, and gives full particulars of the time, cost, and methods of the varied operations of the department—in the cataloging of current accessions, the recataloging of the great bulk of old material in the Montague collection, the mechanical processes of carding, pocketing, pasting, etc., compilation of special lists, ordering and filing Library of Congress cards, revision of branch catalog cards, examination of books for discarding or purchase, compilation of comparative, general and special statistics, technical examinations prepared and revised for apprentice class, varied assistance given to branches and departments, and many other details, some of which seem hardly classifiable under the ordinary work of a cataloging department. The department comprises 30 catalogers and 6 messengers, and the amount spent for salaries in 1905 was \$24,242.27. "Deducting from this amount the \$3687.46 for branch current cataloging, \$6264.27 for recataloging, \$600 for work on the depository catalog, and \$690.54 for cataloging the Greenpoint collection for that branch, leaves \$13,000 spent for cataloging the 62,129 new accessions, and union cataloging, etc., the 13,987 volumes of the old Montague collection, in addition to the other work of the department—an average cost of .17 per volume. It has been estimated that the average cost of cataloging a new title is .30 and that of cataloging a duplicate .15."

The report as a whole, with its full tabulated statistics, will repay careful attention.

The Greenpoint Carnegie branch library building was opened on the evening of April 7.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1905.) Added 5510; total 82,222 (incl. 4595 French and 3543 German). Issued, home use 141,503. New registration 6408 (children 1919).

The first report of the present librarian, Miss Lord, admirable in form and arrangement. It is a suggestive and interesting record of a year "largely spent in completing the reorganization of the detail of the library work, begun under the former librarian." The opening of the applied science reference room, opening of the circulating department every evening, and the establishment of a regular weekly story hour in the children's room, were incidents of chief importance; but there is also evident a large amount of minor development in the direction of greater freedom and simplification in the use and administration of the library. The circulation of 58,847 v. from the 4000 volumes on open shelves makes clear the importance of unrestricted access to books and the desirability of extending it more fully, while the opening of the circulation department every evening has relieved the former pressure of evening work and been appreciated by library users. In August, on account of vacation schedules, the library is closed at 6 p.m., except on Saturday. The duplicate pay collection of popular novels has been discontinued, and reserve postal cards are no longer allowed for new fiction, both these practices being regarded as creating a privilege for money and therefore undesirable in a free public library; "we were surprised to receive very few complaints at the change, while there were many expressions of appreciation of it." In the reading room there has been a marked decrease in use, probably owing to the removal of this department to the second floor, and the diversion of some of its former users to the new applied science reference room. The change is regarded as distinctly advantageous, as the reading room now connects directly with the general reference room and the periodical reference room. A large number of scientific and technical periodicals were added during the year, and on the other hand it was decided to materially reduce the number of newspapers, weeklies and other periodicals formerly bound. "In the January number of the library bulletin was published a classified list of the current periodicals in the applied science reference room. The edition of 2000 was exhausted within two months, and we are already considering the advisability of reprinting the list."

In the reference department there were 17,983 visitors, the only falling off being in the use of Institute students. No statistics are kept of the use of reserved books, so that these may be made as accessible as possible. Government documents have been rearranged and all unnecessary duplicates weeded out; catalogs of educational institutions are no



longer classified or cataloged individually, "they are kept in a single file alphabetically by the name of the institution, and except in unusual cases only the current catalog is preserved." Use of the photographs in the art reference room has largely increased, these being constantly borrowed for illustrative use by clubs and lecturers; a deposit is not required from responsible people known to the library authorities.

The applied science reference room was opened Sept. 12, in the attractive quarters of the former reading room on the first floor. It is open from 12.30 to 9.30 p.m., and its evening use is naturally the largest. The room is equipped with an extended collection of Patent Office reports, bound and current trade and technical journals, transactions of scientific and engineering societies, reference books, and a collection of over 500 trade catalogs. Slow growth of use of this room was expected, and an attendance of 7007 for nine and a half months is regarded as satisfactory. Efforts have been made to make known the existence of this room by distribution of printed notices, visits to factories, shops, labor organizations and manual training classes.

The children's room was closed in August for redecoration and improved equipment, and on its opening on Sept. 1 a re-registration of the children was begun, which showed that the department is used by children from 72 schools in widely separated sections of the city. The story hour on Tuesday evenings has been given regularly since October, and the room is open for reading and circulation in the evening only on Saturday; at the story hours attendance has ranged from 32 to 140, admission being by ticket. This part of the library's work was fully described by Miss Annie Carroll Moore, the children's librarian, in *L. J.*, April, 1905. Some work with the schools has been done, but this cannot be much extended on account of lack of facilities for many more children than now use the library; exhibits and special bulletins form an attractive feature of the work of this department.

The brief summaries of the work of cataloging and order departments note some interesting changes or modifications in method. In the cataloging department the full official catalog "had grown to such proportions and was such an expense to keep up that it was a serious problem." It has been replaced by a check-list on slips (instead of cards), each slip containing as many titles of books by the same author as would go on the slip—often from six to eight; fiction was entirely omitted, except for a name-slip, as the alphabetical fiction shelf-list makes another full entry unnecessary. The space taken by this "official check-list" is less than one-fifth of that taken by the former official catalog, and the expense of continuing it will be nominal. The

public catalog, formerly in three alphabets—author, title and subject—has been consolidated into two, a "name catalog" of authors and titles, and a subject catalog. The entire fiction shelf-list has been checked up, with indication of the number of copies of each book that could be used to advantage, and also with indication that books considered trashy or undesirable are not to be replaced; there has also been a general weeding out of out-of-date or valueless material, especially in newspapers and periodicals. There has been a great increase in rebinding, as books are now sent to the binders much more promptly than heretofore; this, it is pointed out, is really an economy, as it greatly prolongs the life of a book.

*Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. L.* (32d rpt. —year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 1000; total 30,379. Issued, home use 41,683 (fiction and juv. 31,383).

The chief event of the year was the completion of the card catalog, begun the previous year by Miss Mary P. Farr, with one assistant. The whole expense of the catalog amounted to \$3401.86, of which \$2548.54 was for salaries and clerical work during 14 months; \$283.11 for cases; \$237.35 for typewriting machines, and \$332.86 for supplies and incidentals.

*Cambridge (Mass.) P. L.* (48th rpt. —year ending Nov. 30, 1905.) Added 6317; total 70,388. Issued, home use, 228,799, of which 145,470 were from the main library, including children's room, an increase of 36,423 over previous year.

The newly installed travelling libraries, placed with one exception in the local delivery stations have shown most satisfactory results both in circulation and enlarged influence. Each library has been increased from 50 to 75 books, fiction and non-fiction being in the proportion of two to one. The one exception to the delivery stations as depositories has been the Douglas Club, of North Cambridge. Work between the library and schools has been furthered by an additional appropriation by the city council for books. An important extension of this work has been an installment of books, by request, in St. Mary's parochial school. The librarian has also had many conferences with school principals for the purpose of arranging visits to the library for special library instruction by grammar grade pupils. In the cataloging department a revision of juvenile fiction was completed, and lists of books designed to aid in the movement against the spread of tuberculosis were prepared, as well as special lists on technical subjects made by the classes of the Rindge Manual Training School. The newspaper room proved such a success that extension is needed. The income from the Woolson bequest has been used in the purchase of music scores, and in this connection it is recom-

mended that a fine arts department be formed and separately shelved. Altogether the year has been creditable as far as limited funds would permit.

*Chicago (Ill.) P. L.* (33d rpt. — year ending May 31, 1905.) Added 22,879; total 304,510. Issued, home use 1,336,190 (fict. 46.67 per cent., juv. 29.25 per cent.); ref. use 352,856. New registration (two years) 73,368; cards in force 67,370. Attendance in ref. room 128,643. Spent for books \$19,884.79; spent for salaries (173 persons) \$125,013.88.

The cutting down of expenses in the year preceding this report has put the financial affairs of the library on a better basis and permitted more liberal buying of books. There has been a steady growth in all departments during the year covered. Important additions to the reference collection are noted. A sum of \$20,000 was received, on account of the bequest of the late Hiram Kelly, which when the estate is finally settled, will be increased to about \$200,000. Through the 68 delivery stations 788,657 v. were circulated, and over half of the total number of borrowers' cards issued were applied for at the delivery stations. Three motor wagons have been purchased for the delivery service; these have each a carrying capacity of 2500 pounds and each can do the work of two delivery wagons and four horses. "The library will soon be able to establish a daily return delivery to each one of the stations formerly reached only once a day by wagon, and this improvement in the service is bound to result in a still greater use of books." There are now 911 books for the blind in the library, and 859 were issued for home reading. Six branch reading rooms are in operation, in addition to the beautiful Blackstone memorial branch. The Medical Society of Chicago, which has occupied and equipped one of the library rooms as a lecture hall, gave a series of popular free Saturday night lectures, besides holding its own regular meetings; the Municipal Museum of Chicago has been installed in two spare rooms on the fourth floor of the building, where it has held several exhibits, with lectures and informal talks.

There are elaborate statistics, and the report indicates an immense and varied public use of the library in all its departments.

*Chicago. Newberry L.* (Rpt., 1905.) Added 9766; total 210,654 v., 72,804 pm., maps, etc. The library was open 295 days and had 84,141 visitors; 132,751 v. were consulted. The use of the various departments was: medical, 53,335 books and periodicals; history, 26,720 v.; philosophy, 20,562; art and letters, 13,746. In the department of genealogy the index to genealogies has now reached 700 folio volumes.

*Columbus (O.) P. School L.* (29th rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, 1905.) Added 3927;

total 64,025. Issued, home use 250,492; lib. and school ref. use 389,863; total 640,355, of which 580,232 were issued to juv. readers. Receipts \$6999.67; expenses \$6999.67 for books, periodicals, bindings, supplies, etc.; salaries (paid from another fund) \$5055.

The very large statistics of use include detailed record of reading and reference issue of periodicals, reference books, and similar works, which are not ordinarily included in circulation statistics. Nevertheless the use made of the library is remarkable in its extent and general character, this library, which is supported by school funds, being practically a part of the city school system, although it performs also the functions of a general public library. Its collection of supplementary reading numbers 23,790 v., which had a circulation of 100,048 during the school session of 39 weeks. Children are allowed to draw only one work of fiction a week, except books used for required reading in the schools. The percentage of fiction in the total circulation is less than 48. Besides reference and branch libraries in all the public schools the library sends books to police and fire stations, institutions and settlement houses. It is pointed out, however, that at least four permanent branch libraries are necessary for the most effective work.

*Cumberland, Wis.* The new building was formally opened March 17. On week days the library will be open from 1 to 9 p.m. There is some sentiment for Sunday opening, but no conclusion has been reached. The total cost of the new library building was \$8800.

*District of Columbia P. L., Washington.* "The Public Library of the District of Columbia as an organ of social advance" is described by the librarian, G. F. Bowerman, in *Charities* for April 14, 1906 (16: 105-110). The work done in the circulating department, through lists and bulletins, in the children's room, through free lectures and story telling, and through schools and travelling libraries, is described, with emphasis upon the need of a larger appropriation than Congress has yet granted.

*Fitchburg (Mass.) P. L.* (33d rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1905.) Added 2075; total 45,816. Issued, home use 76,538 (fict. 65.9 per cent., of which 21.09 per cent. was juvenile). No. cardholders 4219. Receipts \$7864.56; expenses \$7864.56 (salaries \$2928.61, books \$1287.76, periodicals \$273.95, binding \$735.72, janitor \$831, light \$559.03).

On account of the reduced appropriation expenses have been curtailed in every direction, and only 630 new books were purchased. The library building, given 20 years ago by Hon. Rodney Wallace, cost \$84,500, and an annual appropriation of at least 10 per cent. of that amount is necessary for proper maintenance. Money is needed particularly

for books in foreign languages—for the Finns, Italians and Hebrews—and deposit stations would be a great advantage. The most notable gift of the year came from Herbert I. Wallace, who purchased and presented the valuable music collection of the late Francis H. Jenks, of Boston.

*Galveston, Tex. Rosenberg L.* A statue of the late Henry Rosenberg, founder of the library and benefactor of many Galveston institutions, was unveiled on March 6. The statue is placed in Tremont street, near the library, and the exercises were held on a platform erected on the library terrace.

A course of free lectures on "Great English novelists of the 19th century," by J. G. Carter Troop, of the University of Chicago, was given at the library on Monday afternoons in February and March, and a series of four free stereopticon evening lectures on different subjects, by professors of the University of Texas, was also given.

*Hartford (Ct.) P. L.* On April 25 Clarence G. Mellen, 17 years old, pleaded guilty in police court to a complaint lodged by the library authorities, charging him in six counts with mutilating books belonging to the library. A fine of \$50 and costs on each of the counts was imposed by Judge E. G. Garvan, making a total of \$309.56. The fine was paid by the boy's father. The damage done to the books is not compensated for in the fine imposed, as many of the volumes mutilated were valuable or out-of-print works, which cannot be replaced. The library authorities were able to trace to young Mellen 102 books from which he had cut illustrations, and believe that many other books now in circulation were damaged by him in the same way, though the extent of the injuries will not be known until these are returned and examined. About half of the books traced to young Mellen were exhibited in court, and seen to be irretrievably slashed and ruined. In the examination the prisoner said that he loved books and had about 275 of his own; he said he cut up the library books to get pictures for his scrap book collection. "I got some books from the library and saw two or three pictures that I wanted and I couldn't get them any other place. I cut them out, and as I wasn't detected I cut others, it seemed so easy to do it." He added that he had not read the books taken, that he had never cut any pictures from his own books, and that if the library books had belonged to him he would not have mutilated them. His father testified that the boy was deeply interested in reading and in art. The sentence imposed was in accordance with the recommendation of the prosecuting attorney.

*Hopedale, Mass. Bancroft Memorial L.* (20th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 514; total 10,920. Issued, home use

19,879 (fict. 69 per cent.); visitors to reading room 9563. New cards issued 224; cardholders 1000. Receipts \$2691.09; expenses \$2691.09 (salaries \$1041.02, books \$448.34, periodicals \$132.75, binding \$145.37, heating \$327, lighting \$284.25).

The circulation of juvenile books was nearly one-fifth of the whole. There have been nine Library Art Club exhibits and also a most successful exhibition of amateur photography numbering 309 pictures. Special efforts are being made to bring together works on local history.

*Illinois library institute.* A successful library institute was held at Mattoon, April 6 and 7, under the auspices of the library institute committee of the Illinois State Library Association. The sessions were held in the Carnegie library building and were attended by 13 librarians. There were four instructional sessions, with practical talks and illustrative work, on technical and routine subjects; and one evening session devoted to a public meeting, when Professor Alvord, of the University of Illinois, gave an address on "Local history, the library, and the public."

*Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y. Guiteau L.* (4th rpt.—year ending March 1, 1906.) Added 661; total about 5000. Issued, home use 17,112 (fict. 45 per cent.). New members 222; total membership 1478; no. readers 4275 (1580 children).

*Jersey City (N. J.) F. P. L.* (15th rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, 1905.) Added 5061; total 96,276. Issued, home use 486,562 (fict. 69.4 per cent.). New registration 4128; total registration 34,798.

Special reference is made to the death, in January, 1906, of Dr. Leonard J. Gordon, president of the board and working head of the library. The year's work has been in some respects the heaviest in the library's history. More than half of the home circulation was through the 14 delivery stations. Work with the children is steadily growing, and a circulating department for children is to be established in connection with the children's reference room. Class room libraries are used by an increasing number of schools, and the circulation of books from these collections is larger than ever before.

*Lancaster (Mass.) Town L.* (43d rpt.—year ending March, 1906.) Added 897; total 33,067. Issued, home use 13,345 (fict. 435 per cent.; juv. 188 per cent.). New registration 121; total registration 1694.

"During December and January the librarian gave a course of lectures at the high school on the use of the library, the pupils taking notes. The school was divided into four classes for practical work in the library. Questions were given them on the card catalog, the periodical indexes and the reference books, and they were graded according to

their work. The pupils did exceedingly well and improved steadily."

*Leominster (Mass.) P. L.* (rpt. for year ending Feb. 1, 1906.) Added 730; total 22,270. Issued, home use, 25,072 (fict. 799 per cent.); school use 11,553. New cards issued 870; cards in use 6794. Receipts \$3,723.63; expenses \$3,637.97.

The use of the reference room has steadily grown; re-cataloging has been continued; and in its various departments "the year's work shows unusual progress, and makes, therefore, a satisfactory record for itself." It is also announced that a children's room will soon be opened.

*Lexington (Ky.) P. L.* (6th rpt., 1905.) This is the first report since the library was installed in its handsome Carnegie building. Added 817; total not given. Issued 49,220 (fict. "at least 80 per cent."). Cards in use 3678; "these figures do not represent the children of the public schools who use the large number of books purchased by the library for supplementary reading in the schools." The children's room is one of the most attractive departments of the building; there is also a pleasant reading room for colored people. The county medical society maintains one of the library rooms as a medical library, and holds its meetings there. The report contains several illustrations, and a short historical sketch of the library—which was formed as far back as 1796, as the Transylvania Library—with a description of its new building.

*Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L.* The library was opened in its new quarters on April 15.

*Louisville (Ky.) P. L.* In the Louisville *Courier-Journal* for April 8 Mr. Yust gives an account of the colored branch of the library, opened in separate quarters in September, 1905. He says: "Some difficulty was experienced in securing quarters suitable for the purpose. Household-ers seemed to be under the impression that their property might be desecrated by such use. Finally, after several abortive efforts, William Andrews, colored, agreed to move his family to the second floor and rent the first floor of his house at 1125 West Chestnut street to the library. Three small rooms were altered somewhat and fitted up with temporary shelving so as to present a very attractive appearance. Meanwhile about 1400 volumes of new books were bought, classified and cataloged at the main library, according to the same system employed in all the libraries. A card catalog was made.

"The opening exercises were held Sept. 23 in the Knox Presbyterian Church. Brief addresses were made by a number of the trustees and also by several of the leading colored teachers. It was really a notable occasion, the opening of the first entirely separate library for the colored people. It was em-

phasized as marking an epoch in the development of the race. The large-minded attitude manifested by the trustees in presenting the library was equalled only by the grateful and almost pathetic enthusiasm of those who received it.

"The librarian in charge is Thomas F. Blue, a graduate of Hampton Institute and formerly secretary of the Colored Y. M. C. A. The assistant is Rachel D. Harris, who taught for a number of years in the city schools. This experience is of great value to her in helping the school children, who constitute a large part of the library's readers. Every effort is made to make it as easy as possible to use the library. The printed regulations adopted for the main library have been modified only in the interests of greater freedom. At the other libraries applicants for library privileges are required to have their application signed by a real estate owner. It soon developed that this rule would be a hardship on the colored people and restrict the use of the library, because comparatively few among them hold real estate. It was decided therefore to require only the signature of some one known to be responsible. Although borrowers carry only one card, they may draw any number of books on it for special study provided these books are not in demand by other readers.

"The library is patronized largely by the boys and girls attending school, and it is with them that the most effective work is being done. The teachers are among its warmest supporters. They not only consult it themselves, but regularly refer their pupils to it for supplementary study and help. There have been many expressions of appreciation from ministers, who also make large use of the excellent collection of reference books. The reading class among the colored people is relatively small, but rapidly increasing, and the library is doing much toward developing the reading habit. The total number of cardholders is 1420. During the six months that the library has been in operation the attendance has been 18,876, and the number of books drawn for home reading 8119. Readers as well as the librarians are encouraged to recommend books for purchase. The total number now in the library is 2278. Among the most popular of the periodicals are the *Colored American* and the *Voice of the Negro*. The heavy magazines like *Harper's Monthly* and *Review of Reviews* are not much in demand. The first book drawn out for home reading was Booker T. Washington's 'Up from slavery.' The 12 books that have had the largest circulation are: Chesnutt, *Marrow of tradition*, out 23 times; Churchill, *Richard Carvel*, out 24 times; Doyle, *Sherlock Holmes*, out 23 times; DuBois, *Souls of black folk*, out 22 times; McCutcheon, *Nedra*, out 25 times; Reade, *Put yourself in his place*, out 28 times; Rice, *Mrs. Wiggs of the*



cabbage patch,' out 32 times; Rice, 'Lovey Mary,' out 23 times; Rice, 'Sandy,' out 55 times; Spearman, 'Daughter of a magnate,' out 32 times; Washington, 'Up from slavery,' out 28 times; Washington, 'Working with the hands,' out 23 times. Other popular books are Dunbar's 'Lyrics,' Thwaites' 'Daniel Boone,' Helen Hunt Jackson's 'Ramona,' and George Eliot's works. The colored people have no hesitation in expressing their preference for books by and about their own people. It is not clear why George Eliot is such a favorite.

"The circulation of fiction predominates, but the percentage is only 64, whereas at the main library it is 81. This may be due to the fact that the so-called leisure class, who are supposed to read the most fiction, is smaller among the colored people, or that the novel does not appeal so strongly to the negro mind; or that the library is used more largely by pupils, teachers, ministers and other professional people, who come to it for more serious purposes. They find it helpful in their daily work. One woman who makes a business of raising chickens called at the library for medical help because many of them were dying. Nothing on the subject could be found and the librarian was unable to prescribe for sick chickens, but a book on poultry was ordered for her immediately.

"The juvenile books, of which there are 450, are exceedingly popular even with adults. About 300 new ones have been ordered. The rear room is especially devoted to children's work. The weekly story hour is conducted by trained kindergarten teachers in the colored schools. The room is frequently filled before the appointed time and many have to be turned away. A boy's club also meets there once a week for reading and the consideration of books of special interest.

"One of the most satisfactory features of the library is the attractiveness of the rooms. They are small, but well adapted to their purpose and are kept scrupulously neat and clean. There is free access to the shelves, and any one may examine any book in the library. It is the quietest of all the libraries in the city, and a distinctly library atmosphere prevails. It is not only supplying the intellectual wants of the people, but it is a standing object lesson in cleanliness and order. It is steadily growing in popularity and influence."

*Malden (Mass.) P. L.* (28th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 3335; total 48,722. Issued, home use, 135,198 (fict. 74.81 per cent.) school use 15,590; lib. use 12,358. New cards issued 1501; cards in use, 13,608.

"The activities of the library during the past year have been along lines established and persistently followed for many years, by strengthening and extending which new avenues of work have been opened and their opportunities followed out. All that has come

in the way of work in the children's room, with the schools, through delivery stations, and by other branches of library service have not come as innovations by themselves, but as the legitimate results of the principles which have governed the conduct of the library from its establishment." The use of school libraries, selected from over 1700 volumes set apart for the purpose, has been extended to third grade pupils.

*Mansfield, O. Memorial L. Assoc.* (18th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 1025, including bound magazines; total not given. Issued, home use 47,120 (fict. 25,944); visitors to reading room 34,695; total borrowers' cards 7000.

During the year past it has not been thought best "to undertake any more work or to make any more additions to our present equipment except what was absolutely necessary." The new building is fast approaching completion and will make up for all the deficiencies of present quarters. There have been many valuable gifts, including over three hundred volumes from the library of the Hon. John Sherman, and many pictures have been mounted for clubs and school work. It is arranged to have a children's story hour once a week during the ensuing year.

*Medford (Mass.) P. L.* (50th rpt., 1905.) Added 2009; total 29,683. Issued, home use 80,922 (fict. 73 per cent.; juv. fict. 42 per cent.). New registration 1148; total cardholders 4856. Receipts \$9149.87; expenses \$9149.67 (salaries \$4302.16, books \$1573.40, janitor \$737.05, rebinding \$521.02, periodicals \$325.68, fuel \$293.60, lighting \$199.32).

"An attempt has been made to call attention to an account of an experiment in popularizing the study of fiction by R. G. Moulton in his 'Four years of novel reading.' The plan consists in the reading by all the members of a 'Classical Novel Reading Union' of the same novel at the same period, while the announcement of the novel to be read is accompanied with suggestions coming from some 'literary authority' of some one or two points to be noted in the book; then follow meetings for discussing the novel. There have been put on a blackboard in the delivery room from time to time the lists of the different novels styled classic, giving with the list the suggestions designed to call out the points and lessons to be found in the different books."

Work with the schools has been much hampered by insufficient supply of books, but 96 day schools and five Sunday-schools receive regular service from the library.

*Milton (Mass.) P. L.* (36th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 1159; total 15,693. Issued, home use 57,349 (fict. 25,319; juv. fict. 14,321). New registration 446; total cardholders 2487.

Increased use in all departments is the rec-

ord of the year. The population during the last five years has increased from 6578 to 7954, while the circulation for the same period has increased from 42,264 to 57,349. The abolition of an age limit has resulted in a large increase in the number of children using the library. Borrowers are allowed to take out at one time as many books as are desired, provided but one is a "seven-day book." The work of the children's room for its first year in the new building is reported in detail; bulletins, exhibits, two public story hours, and much reading aloud by the children's librarian have helped to interest and attract children.

*New Bedford (Mass.) P. L.* (54th rpt., 1905.) Added 4092; total 92,805. Issued, home use 118,904 (fict. 67.7 per cent.). New cards issued 1661.

Mr. Tripp makes a clear presentation of the resources, activities and needs of the library. The special strength of the collection is in Quakerana, genealogy and art books; material relating to the whaling industry is extensive and every effort is made to increase it. There are two branches and three delivery stations, besides deposit stations at engine houses and schools. The newspapers are largely used for lists of additions, and the monthly bulletins and many special reading lists reach many readers. Exhibits of photographs and half-tones are continuously displayed in the reference room, and the Newark bookbinding exhibit was displayed in September. Lectures on library methods have been given by the librarian to a class of the teachers' training school. It is recommended that more should be done for children through the schools, as there is no room for a children's department in the library; boxes of books should be sent to every school room, teachers should be allowed to sign application blanks for children, and the age limit should be dropped from 12 to 10 years.

*Nashville, Tenn. Carnegie L.* (4th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 3193; total 29,333. Issued, home use 73,471 (fict. 45,843; juv. 13,707); school circulation 20,960. New registration 3890; total re-registration 8020. Receipts \$11,351.45 (city appropriation \$10,000); expenses \$11,088.20 (salaries \$5357.50, books \$2238.66, furniture \$803.12, periodicals \$430.95, binding \$310.90, janitor service \$457.32).

This report covers the first full year of service in the new building, and shows a constantly increasing use of the library by the public. The present reference room has already proved too small, and it is suggested that an adequate reference room should be fitted up on the third floor and the present reading rooms utilized for open shelves. At present there are open shelves only for about 1000 volumes in the reading room. Several meetings of art and educational associations have been held in the library assembly rooms.

All recent and current accessions have been cataloged, but there are considerable arrears in the cataloging of the old books. The L. of C. printed cards are used, 10,901 having been purchased in 1905. In the children's department 19,878 v. were circulated and only seven were lost; a story hour is given on Saturday mornings. Visits were made by the librarian to all the white public schools, and invitations to visit the library were extended to teachers and pupils. In response 31 teachers brought their classes, numbering from 25 to 50 each, and many children became borrowers after their visit. Boxes of books are sent to 11 schools, including four night schools; in all 3970 v. have been sent to the schools in this way. "This supplementary reading has cost the library \$1020.15 and the schools \$209.82." Many extracts from letters of teachers and the school superintendent are given, showing the general appreciation of this use of library books. Various suggestions are made for the extension of the library's usefulness, but these would be dependent upon increased funds.

Accompanying the report is a typewritten slip, ingeniously summarizing the money value of the library to the people who use its books. Thus, Miss Johnson points out that, with a total circulation of 94,431 v., and a loss of 20—estimating each book at a value of \$1—"the people of Nashville received in 1905, \$94,431 in return for the \$10,000 appropriated by the city. The children alone read from their room 19,878 books, which estimated at the low cost of 75 cents each would be \$14,908, which is nearly \$5000 more than the city gives the library." Further examples of the library's money value to the individual are given: "Tennyson's life," by his son, cost \$10, has circulated 46 times, making \$460 given to the people by that one book. "Adolescence," by Hall, recently bought at \$7.50, has circulated 15 times, making \$112.50 from this book to the public. One man read in three months \$1.32 worth of books. They were non-fiction. Picked up at random, 7 novels recently bought costing \$1 each have been out the following number of times and are still in circulation: 46, 30, 25, 86, 40, 58, 37, making in all 302 times. Costing \$1 each these represent \$302 given to the public from 7 novels.

"It will also be understood that the 94,431 books circulated in 1905 are, with the exception of a few worn out, still in circulation, and are doing the same service in 1906 they did in 1905. Also that the use of the 94,431 books borrowed from the library and taken to the homes of the people are entirely outside of the use of the large number of expensive non-circulating books, reference books and bound magazines constantly used in the library."

The library issued the first number of a four-page *Bulletin* under date of April, in connection with the Nashville meeting of the state federation of women's clubs. It contains brief notes on the need of a state library

commission, how to get a Carnegie library building, work of the Nashville library during the year, and a short list of works necessary in library organization.

*New York P. L.* In *Charities* for March 17, 1906 (15: 885-886), Mary Kingsbury Simkovitch has an article on "The New York Public Library assembly halls," calling attention to the very slight use that is being made of these halls in the branch libraries. She urges that "these halls ought to be open for the free discussion by the neighborhood of its neighborhood needs." Interesting in its connection with this article is the action just taken by the city department of education, in giving courses of lectures in the assembly halls of the library, in co-operation with the library. These have begun during the month of April with a course of four lectures on Shakespeare's dramas at the Tompkins Square branch, a course of four lectures on descriptive geography at the Tremont branch, and a course of the same length on France and Spain at the 135th street branch. The library has kept open in each case half an hour after the close of the lecture, so that those who wish to borrow books on the subject of the evening's talk may do so. The attendance so far has been excellent. It is expected that during the next season the number of public library lecture centers will be largely increased. The assembly room at the Hudson Park branch, 66 Leroy street, was occupied during April by the Tuberculosis Exhibition of the Charity Organization Society.

The experiment of opening some of the branch reading rooms on Sundays from two to six p.m. and keeping some of them open until ten o'clock on week days continues. After a month's trial this service in the branches where the average attendance is not satisfactory is discontinued. In general the Sunday attendance is much better than that between nine and ten p.m., although the latter is large on the lower East Side, reaching an average of 61 per evening at the Rivington street branch.

*New York State L.* On April 25 the senate finance committee amended and reported favorably the bill introduced by Senator Raines for the construction of a new building for the exclusive use of the state educational department and the state library. An important amendment decided on by the committee was to offer prizes to the successful architects submitting plans, so as to stimulate the competition. The bill limits the total expenditure for the building to \$3,500,000, and appropriates \$400,000 to be used for the drafting and preparation of plans and specifications and the acquisition of a site in the vicinity of the capitol. This amount is to be available this year. Next year the first appropriation for the building itself will be made. In the architectural competition prizes amounting to

\$20,000 will be offered and the architect whose plans are accepted will receive a bonus of \$10,000; the author of the plans considered second choice will receive \$7000, and the architect whose plans are third will receive \$3000.

*Newark (N. J.) F. P. L.* In December, 1905, the library decided to make a collection of trade catalogs. Letters were sent to 200 manufacturers, principally of machinery, and over 300 catalogs were obtained and are now arranged for use in the bound periodical room, adjoining the reading room on the second floor.

*Northampton, Mass. Forbes L.* (11th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1905.) Added 5853; total 104,460. Issued, home use 106,103 (net. 42 per cent.). New registration 119; total registration 6115, estimated as 30.7 per cent. of the population. Receipts, aid fund \$12,025.31; expenses \$11,449.79 (officers and employees \$8251.99, fuel and lighting \$1083.36, supplies \$1235.55); book fund \$13,212.61.

The report is mainly devoted to the correspondence between the library trustees and trustees of Smith College, regarding the subsidy of \$2500 which the college was requested to pay toward the library's support, in return for the according of library privileges to college students. The difficulty was bridged over for three years by the agreement of the college authorities to pay \$2000 yearly and the gift of \$500 a year in addition from an anonymous donor.

Mr. Cutter reports a slight increase in circulation, due to the increased use of pictures from the art department; this department now contains 59,672 pieces. Weekly distributions of books have been carried on in outlying districts, schools, clubs and institutions, in all 14,004 v. having been circulated through these outside agencies. Important additions have been made to the collection of pictures; for the use of teachers 1350 stereoscopic views have been purchased, for circulation with stereoscopes. "These have had extensive use, although a very recent purchase." Effort is being made to strengthen the collection of technological books. There were numerous changes in the cataloging staff, but 14,384 v. were cataloged during the year, "making a total of 39,545 cataloged volumes in the library, or 37.8 per cent." More shelving is a pressing necessity.

*Oberlin (O.) College L.* (Rpt. — year ending Aug. 31, 1905.) Added 3816 v. (purchased 1450), 3236 unbound v.; total 67,554 v., 39,987 unbound v. Chief accessions and gifts of the year are noted, and appeal is made for an increased book fund. For home use 15,614 v. were drawn by 1288 persons.

The chief event of the year was the offer of Andrew Carnegie, by virtue of which a new building "is some day to become a reality."

Of importance in the working of the library was the appointment of a trained reference librarian, Miss Antoinette Metcalf, and the rearrangement of the reading room so that books reserved by professors for the use of their classes were brought under supervision. "Heretofore these books have been on open shelves, without supervision, with the result that books were carried from the building, hidden or kept by a student in order to prevent others from having an opportunity to make use of them. Our present system, whereby such books are kept on shelves, under supervision, and for each book taken a signed card is left with the reference librarian, has worked to perfection. During the entire year, out of 1500 books thus reserved, not more than half a dozen have in any way disappeared, and it has been possible at any time to tell a student just where a given book could be found. Many expressions of satisfaction have come from the students as to the new arrangement. In spite of the inconvenience of having to sign a card for the book, the knowledge that the book could be found, and that it would not remain in any one's hands an undue length of time, has offset all the inconvenience. We would not willingly go back to the old arrangement."

*Ottumwa (Ia.) P. L.* (3d rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 5047; total 18,029. Issued, home use 70,229 (fict. 60 per cent.), of which 29 per cent. were issued to children. New registration 862; cards in use 6151. Receipts \$5183.35; expenses \$4859.49 (salaries \$2497.50, books \$1238.02, binding \$575.07, periodicals \$122.95).

The circulation shows an increase of 11 per cent. over that of the preceding year, and over one-fourth of the total issue was through schools, two branches, one station, and other agencies. The extent of the circulation is notable, as the city has a population of only 23,000 and there are not over 10,000 v. in the circulating department. The collection of newspaper clippings grows constantly and is proving most useful, as is the picture collection. A separate children's room is much needed, as the work with children is steadily increasing.

"It has been the policy of the library to organize and thoroughly develop one new feature each year. Our new work this year has been to start as many branches and stations as the library can afford with its present resources." These include two branches, each open one or two afternoons and evenings a week; one station, in a small shop, open daily; and collections of books at the Y. W. C. A., city mission, city prison, fire department, and schools.

*Owatonna (Minn.) F. P. L.* (6th rpt., 1905; in local press.) Added 827; total 9833. Issued, home use 35,856. New registration 656; total active borrowers 3436.

The last report of Miss Maude Van Buren,

whose term as librarian was closed under circumstance previously noted in these columns. She says: "It has been our aim this year to reach those who through indifference or timidity, or ignorance of the fact that a free public library, entertaining and instructive, exists for them, have heretofore failed to make use of their privileges." Lists, bulletins, loan and travelling collections have been among the means used to spread a knowledge of the library. German and Danish books have been in constant demand, and there has been marked increase in reading and reference room use. The revision of the catalog was completed during the year. Visits were made to the schools, with the result of bringing many more children to the library, and a Saturday morning "poetry hour" was held during the spring months. The county extension plan begun the year before was developed, eight travelling libraries of 40 volumes each being kept in active service at eight county stations; the total county circulation was 3377, of which 37 per cent. was non-fiction.

*Providence (R. I.) P. L.* An organization known as the Children's Library Helpers has been formed to assist the children's department of the library, both financially and in other ways. It is composed of members and associate members, the former being children, with an annual fee of 50 cents; the latter being parents or friends of children, with an annual fee of not less than \$1. The funds are devoted to the purchase of duplicates or other needed books, or to other needs of the department. The children's department contains only about 6600 v. and had a circulation of over 42,000 v. in 1904, so that its supply is quite insufficient for the demands upon it.

*Southbridge (Mass.) P. L.* (Rpt. — year ending March 1, 1906.) Added 517; total 20,057. Issued, home use 29,585. New registration 499; total registration 2269. Receipts \$2886.72; expenses \$2784.62; additional fund \$1080.80, of which \$50.03 was expended.

Books for boys and girls show the greatest increase in circulation, and a children's room is regarded as "the crying need of this library."

*Taunton (Mass.) P. L.* (40th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1905.) Added 1168; total 51,468. Issued, home use 58,911 (28,135 fict.; 13,706 juv.). New registration 1055; total new registration 6570. Receipts \$9246.19; expenses \$9246.10 (books \$1601.59, periodicals \$507.04, salaries \$2709.45, binding \$788.20).

This report covers the first year of work in the new Carnegie building. A course of free lectures was given during February, March and April, and several exhibits have been held through the Library Art Club.

*Toledo (O.) P. L.* (31st rpt., 1905.) Added 10,571; total 65,491. Issued, home use 227,827 (fict. 45 per cent.; juv. 40.7 per cent.).



New registration 3987; total registration 19,055.

Much has been done to improve the equipment and methods of the library, but the work is much hampered by unsuitable and inadequate quarters. The circulation has grown beyond the library's power to meet demands for books. "In the juvenile department the problem was to maintain the stock in the children's room in the face of a 20 per cent. increase in circulation over 1904; to make good 871 books worn out, and to meet an unexpected and phenomenal demand for school libraries. One-half of the 5161 children's books added went into the schools. Of the 2416 volumes of fiction added, 687 were current novels for the rental shelves. The remaining 1729 were used to replenish and strengthen our stock of the older standard fiction, the demand for which is constant." Class room libraries were established in the high school, and collections of children's books were sent to a social settlement, where a story hour was experimentally conducted.

*University of Texas L.* The library class conducted under direction of the librarian is now closing its fourth year, 13 students having carried through the year's work. Of these 13, eight are now employed in Texas libraries.

*Virginia State L.* The appropriation of \$31,800 for two years' administration of the library, granted at the recent session of the legislature, will enable the state librarian, Mr. Kennedy, to effect a complete reorganization of the library force and carry out many measures for developing the library's efficiency.

For many years the sole support of the library has been derived from the sale of public documents, which has given the institution an annual income of from \$5000 to \$8000. The present appropriation provides for \$22,300 for the salaries of the members of the library force, \$7500 for the department of travelling libraries, and \$2000 for library furnishings, which for some time have been much needed.

*Waterbury, Ct. Silas Bronson L.* (36th rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, 1905.) Added 5190; total 65,716. Issued, home use 116,709, of which 10,213 were from the school libraries (fict. 72.70 per cent.); juvenile books formed 35 per cent. of the circulation of the main library.

"The gift of \$3000 by the city has enabled us to extend our system of school deposit libraries. The collection of books now numbers 2952, distributed through grades four to nine, inclusive, in seven schools." One result of this extension is the interest shown by parents, and the use of the school libraries practically as neighborhood libraries in the outer parts of the city.

*Weymouth, Mass. Tufts L.* (27th rpt., 1905.) Added 758; total not given. Issued, home use, 54,042 (fict., incl. juv., .682 per

cent.). New registration 327; total registration 5306. Receipts \$3872.32; expenses \$3746.78 (books \$594.66, salaries \$1256.71, janitor \$300, supplies, \$210.94, binding \$102.51).

"2543 volumes have been loaned to the teachers on their special cards besides the collection of books sent to seven of the schools situated at a distance from the library. This work has proved very satisfactory." A third vacation reading list was compiled for the schools, and is given in appendix to this report. The long-needed revision of the card catalog has been undertaken. In June an interesting and successful drawing exhibition of the public schools was held, which brought many persons to the library for the first time.

*Wichita (Kan.) P. L.* The circulating department of the library was closed on the evening of April 4, to permit the assistants to attend Mme. Bernhardt's performance. The reading and reference room was open during the usual hours.

*Wisconsin State Historical Soc. L., Madison.* The library has just purchased an interesting volume from the standpoint of American history, being a scrap book kept by Pierre Margry, the celebrated editor of French documents appertaining to early French exploration of the Mississippi valley. In this book M. Margry mounted clippings from American and European magazines and newspapers, bearing chiefly on this subject, adding thereto in his own handwriting, both in ink and pencil, annotations, criticisms, and other data. The scrap book is significant not only for the material it contains, but as illustrating Margry's methods of work and trend of thought.

*Worcester County (Mass.) Law L.* (8th rpt.—year ending March 9, 1905.) Added 463; total 24,027. Attendance 2709 readers, to whom 17,317 v. were issued.

When desired, volumes of cases, reports and textbooks will be loaned to responsible persons in any part of the county, on a reasonable time limit and on payment of transportation both ways. Dr. Wire gives, as usual, some practical suggestions regarding binding and care of books.

#### FOREIGN

*Ontario, Canada.* The report of the Ministry of Education for 1905 (Toronto, 1906), records 397 public libraries reporting for the year ending Dec. 31, 1904; these have 179,485 members, 180 reading rooms, a total of 1,153,778 v., and the circulation from these libraries for the year amounted to 2,507,233 v. There were 88 public libraries that did not report, and 6 libraries were established in the year 1905. The usual tabulated lists and statistics are given.

*Ottawa (Can.) P. L.* The handsome Carnegie library building was opened on April

30, Andrew Carnegie being present at the exercises.

*University of Toronto L.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1905.) Added 3292; total 80,937. A library fee has been imposed upon students in medicine, and funds for the purchase of textbooks for their special use have been provided. Extension of the reading room is now as pressing a necessity as is extension of the stack room. "In fact, an entire reconstruction of the building, making provision not for 10 or 15 years, but for 25, 50 or 100 years, is the only proper solution of the problem of lack of accommodation in all branches of the library service.

### Gifts and Bequests

*East Douglas (Mass.) P. L.* By the will of the late James Smith, of East Douglas, the library receives a bequest of \$6000.

*Lancaster, N. H.* The town has received a gift of \$15,000 from John W. Weeks, of Newton, Mass., for a library building to be a memorial to his father, the late William D. Weeks.

*New Ipswich (N. H.) P. L.* By the will of the late Mary M. B. Whitman, of Washington, D. C., the library receives a bequest of \$10,000 for the maintenance of the library, the fund to be known as the "Henry Ames Blood and Royal Henry Blood memorial fund." The bequest is not available until after the death of the testator's husband.

*New York Historical Society L.* The library has received a valuable gift in the library of Rufus King, of 5247 v., rich in historical and antiquarian material relating to America. This is the gift of the late Mrs. Charles Ray King and her daughter, Mary Rhinelander King.

### Carnegie library gifts

*Darien, Ct.* At a town meeting on April 9 it was voted not to accept Andrew Carnegie's offer of \$5000 for a library building. The vote was 45 to 43, on a second ballot. Two later meetings were held, with a similar result, at the third meeting on April 30 the vote being 130 to 121.

*Denison University, Newark, O.* April 21. \$40,000 for a library building, provided an equal amount is raised for endowment.

*Denver (Colo.) University.* April 20. \$30,000 for new library building, provided an equal sum is raised for endowment.

*Guthrie Centre, Ia.* At a special election held on April 3, the proposition to accept a \$5000 Carnegie library building was defeated by 91 votes. Out of the 616 votes cast, 300 were cast by women. Of the votes cast by

men, a majority of 29 were against the proposition.

*Perth Amboy (N. J.) P. L.* April 24. \$450 additional, for installing seats in auditorium of library building.

*Rochester, Ind.* April 27. \$5000 additional, making a total of \$15,000.

### Practical Notes

**BINDING MATERIALS.** The Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library issues the following "Schedule of material used on outside of books":

1. Popular novels, all juveniles and all books other than novels which are much used and will become too much worn and soiled as to the leaves to be worth keeping after about five years: half red or light brown cowskin and green keratol or Meer's artificial leather for sides.

The cowskin is brown, because that color seems to be less injured by dye than any other. It is of good quality, about 16 cents per square foot. The keratol and artificial leather wear well, do not gather much dirt and can be cleaned. Keratol costs about 35 cents per square yard; the artificial leather costs 25 cents.

2. Novels and other books which are very little used: Follow style of set where advisable, otherwise full dark blue art canvas or green imperial morocco cloth.

The canvas has the thread dyed of both warp and woof. It does not grow gray at the corners or joint. It costs about 20 cents per square yard. Imperial morocco cloth is made in England. It is very strong. It costs about 45 cents per square yard.

3. Periodicals which are much used, but not the early numbers of long sets if they are not often handled: Three-quarters brown cowskin, imperial morocco cloth sides.

In a century set, for example, current volumes are put into this binding; volumes 10 years old or more if not often consulted are bound as per next paragraph.

4. Periodicals and proceedings of societies which are little used and all little used large books: Follow style of set where advisable; otherwise green canvas backs, dark blue art canvas or imperial morocco cloth sides. Lettered in black.

The green canvas is not sized. This binding and nos. 2 and 3 are the only ones the librarian can be quite sure will not decay in from three to 15 years. But see the leathers made in England dressed as recommended by the Society of Arts.

5. Duplicate collection novels: These are books lent for one cent per day. The borrowers thus pay their first cost and also their rebinding. They are kept in first-class condition and rebound thus: half green cowhide, red keratol or Meer's artificial leather.

LOOSE-LEAF BOOK BACK. (Described in *Official Gazette*, U. S. Patent Office, Feb. 13, 1906. 120: 2011-2012.) II.

Twelve claims are allowed for this patent.

MATHEWS, E. N. Library binderies. (*In Library Association Record*, 15th March, 1906. 8: 73-78.)

As a result of practical experience Mr. Mathews believes that "it is both economical and advantageous to establish a bindery," and his article describes the development, methods and results of the bindery of the Bristol Public Libraries. The library system includes a central library (founded in 1613 and containing an important collection of ancient folios and quartos, incunabula and early 16th century books), six large new district libraries and three smaller ones; and the problem of handling heavy arrears of binding work and the restoration of ancient bindings has been a very serious one, in view of the insufficient income available. A beginning was made in home binding by the employment of one man for repairs and recasing. Later a library bindery was established in connection with the opening of a new district library for Bristol North. This adjoins the library building, but is built apart from it, with an area of 400 or 500 square feet, and is fitted with all the necessary equipment of a modern workshop. "The result of a year's work ending 31st March last shows that with one practical binder and two sewers there were 2864 volumes rebound in leather or cloth, including special binding for the local collection, and 2271 volumes were repaired or re-cased. In addition, early printed books, involving much care and labor, were restored to the extent of 41 folio volumes, making a grand total of 5176 volumes. The cost of binding materials during the same period amounted to the sum of £28 13s. 3d., which with the cost of wages and sundries brought the total cost to the sum of £207 7s. 4d., and represents the binding for the whole of the libraries, exclusive only of newspaper and periodical volumes and specifications of patents. The net cost of this, working out to a little over 9d. per volume, including the restoration of the special bindings. Books needing very slight repairs, such as securing loose pages or guarding plates, are done by the ordinary staff at each library, while at the central the staff, at stock-taking time, once a year, carefully clean and polish the restored bindings of the more valuable books." The salary here mentioned, of less than \$10 a week for a head bookbinder, indicates, however, that American librarians cannot accept Mr. Mathews' figures as applicable to American conditions. Like most of those who have experimented with binding, Mr. Mathews recommends morocco, pigskin and stout roan for reference books or other valuable works; for cheaper books, morocco, buckram and canvas cloths. In color he considers red preferable, as the dye seems to act favorably on the leather.

## Librarians

BEER, William, on April 19, resigned the position of chief clerk of the New Orleans Public Library. Mr. Beer, who has long been librarian of the Howard Memorial Library of New Orleans, was also appointed librarian of the Public Library at the time of its organization, this title being changed to that of chief clerk in 1903, when the library was placed under the local civil service law. He continues his work as librarian of the Howard Memorial Library.

BLISS, Robert P., librarian of Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa., was on May 3 appointed secretary of the Pennsylvania Free Library Commission, in charge of the department of travelling libraries. Mr. Bliss has for several years been active in library affairs in Pennsylvania and in the work of the Keystone State Library Association, and is thoroughly familiar with the conditions and needs of libraries in the state.

CRUNDEN, Frederick M., librarian of the St. Louis Public Library, has taken leave of absence for several months on account of ill health.

FLINT, Weston, formerly librarian of the Washington (D. C.) Free Public Library, died at his home in Washington on April 6, after a brief illness. Mr. Flint was born in Pike, Wyoming county, New York, July 4, 1835. At the age of 17 he began teaching, and in 1855 entered Alfred Academy, which was about to be raised to a university, where he was graduated in 1858. In 1860 he was graduated from Union College, and in 1863 received the degree of A.M. After teaching in New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio he went to St. Louis, in connection with the hospital service of the federal army, and was there appointed military agent for Ohio, acting also for Michigan and New York in the care of sick or wounded soldiers. In 1866 to 1869 he was attorney for claims in St. Louis, and active in state politics, and later became editor and publisher of the *St. Louis Daily Tribune*, and organized the second board of the state geological survey, of which he was secretary. In 1871 he was appointed United States consul to Chin Kiang, China, from which he returned in 1874, to engage in literary work, lecturing and study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1878. For the 10 years 1877-1887 he was librarian of the scientific library of the United States Patent Office, serving also with the Senate civil service investigating committee, and in 1889 he was appointed statistician of the U. S. Bureau of Education, having in charge the 1893 report on the libraries of the United States and Canada. On Sept. 29, 1898, he was appointed librarian of the newly organized Washington (D. C.) Free Public Library (now the District of Columbia Public Library), of which

he was then a trustee. This position he held until about a year ago, when he retired from active work, and was succeeded by George F. Bowerman. Mr. Flint belonged to many associations, among them the American Library Association, of which he was a life member; the American Historical Association, American Folk Lore Society, and National Geographic Society. His wife, who was Miss Lucy R. Brown, of Ohio, died several months ago.

JEWETT, Walter Kendall, assistant in the John Crerar Library, Chicago, was on April 10 elected librarian of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, succeeding J. I. Wyer, Jr., his appointment taking effect May 1. Dr. Jewett is a graduate of Brown University, the class of 1891, and received the degree of M.D. from Harvard in 1895. After six years spent in the practice of medicine in Massachusetts and two years of study and travel in Europe, he entered the New York State Library School in 1903, completing the course in 1905.

NELSON, Miss Esther, of the New York State Library School, class of 1906, has been appointed librarian of the University of Utah.

SCOTT, Miss Carrie E., of the New York State Library School, 1905-6, has been appointed assistant to the supervisor of work with schools, in Pittsburgh, Pa.

WALTER, Frank Keller, of the New York State Library School, class of 1906, has been appointed assistant in the reference department of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library.

### Cataloging and Classification

CLASSIFICATION IN USEFUL ARTS AND NATURAL SCIENCE. — We have had some inquiries concerning the classification of books in the Useful arts and Natural sciences, and it may be of interest to those who are making some use of this part of our classified catalog to know that many changes were made in these classes of the D. C. We worked this out before having the classification of the Brussels Institut Internationale de Bibliographie, which we now use for new divisions whenever possible. We would probably have used it altogether had it been available when we began our work.

We have not subdivided the class 537, but have classified books in 621.3 rather than 537, whenever it was at all possible to do so. We have not found the separation of books in the theory and practice of electricity (537 and 621.3) particularly inconvenient. It would, of course, be more convenient to have them together, but we feel that this would necessitate an entire reconstruction of the general

scheme of classification and that the disadvantages of this would be quite as great as the advantages. The greatest change in other classes was that made in (770) Photography and (790) Amusements. In expanding both of these classes, the classification of the Brussels Institut Internationale de Bibliographie was followed.

We have inserted references in the classified catalog where it seemed necessary to connect subjects, or where books treating different phases of the same subject were widely separated, as in the case of books on Railroads, which may classify in 656, 385 or 625.

MARGARET MANN, *Chief cataloger*,  
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

BERKSHIRE ATHENAEUM (Pittsfield, Mass.) *Bulletin* for April contains lists of books for boys and girls, giving in conjunction a popular book and one recommended to be read with it. Thus, with Oliver Optic's "Young navigators" is bracketed Lady Brassey's "Voyage in the *Sunbeam*," and in the girls' list Miss Alcott's "Little men" is accompanied by "Swiss family Robinson," Mrs. Barr's "Trinity bells," by Henry James's "Memoirs of an American lady," etc. The boys' list is devoted to Willis J. Abbot, Jacob Abbott and Oliver Optic; the girls' includes Miss Alcott, Amy Blanchard, Mrs. Champney, and others.

CATALOGUE des livres et manuscrits composant la bibliothèque du feu Salvatore Meluzzi, maître de la chapelle du Vatican, suivi du catalogue d'un choix de livres appartenant à un amateur. Rome, D. G. Rossi, 1906. 123 p. 8°.

CASE L., *Cleveland, O.* Finding list of French fiction. Cleveland, 1905 [1906]. 22 p. T.

CHICAGO P. L. *Bulletin* no. 74. Accessions, from Feb. 1 to May 1, 1906. 16 p. O.

EAST ST. LOUIS (Ill.) F. P. L. Classified catalogue: a complete list of books in the circulating, reference and children's departments. Jan. 1, 1906. East St. Louis, Ill., 1906. 12+216 p. O.

A short-title D. C. classed list, with separate lists of supplementary reading for schools, reference books, and juvenile books. Advertising pages are inserted at frequent intervals and included at front and back. One copy of the catalog is given free to each family holding readers' cards.

JOHN CRERAR L., *Chicago*. Supplement to the list of serials in public libraries of Chicago and Evanston. 2d ed., corrected to November, 1905; ed. by C. W. Andrews; with a bibliography of union lists of serials, comp.



by Aksel G. S. Josephson. Chicago, 1906. 10+220+28 p. O.

The second cumulative supplement to the "List of serials in public libraries of Chicago and Evanston," published by the Chicago Library Club in 1901. Records 8460 serials received in 19 libraries; the original list gave 3540 entries not here reprinted, so that in both lists 12,000 serials are recorded. "One change in method of entry has been made by unanimous consent of the larger libraries. The entry of foreign serials having individual titles under the society has proved so inconvenient that such serials are now entered under the title, in accordance with the rule for American and English publications."

The NEW YORK P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains an extended selection of letters of John Adams and John Quincy Adams, 1776-1838, printed from the original manuscripts in the Bancroft collection, owned by the library.

The ST. LOUIS (Mo.) P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains short reading lists on Agriculture and botany, and Stories of the opera.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for April contains a good classed special reading list on Botany.

ERNEST A. SAVAGE, librarian of the Bromley (Eng.) Public Library, has written "A manual of descriptive annotation for library catalogues," which the Library Supply Co., of London, are about to publish. The manual discusses various methods of preparing and publishing guides for the use of readers, and provides a code of rules for analyzing contents of books. Ernest A. Baker, author of the "Guide to best fiction," has contributed a chapter on evaluation and a historical note.

The SEATTLE (Wash.) P. L. *Bulletin* for March has a reference list on "Gardening."

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE L. *Bulletin* no. 58: Accessions to the department library. October - December, 1905. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1906. 64 p. O.

WISCONSIN. *Department of Education*. List of books for township libraries in the state of Wisconsin, 1906 and 1907; prep. by Maud Barnett, state library clerk; issued by C. P. Cary, state superintendent. Madison, 1906. 88+255 p. O.

Prefaced by "Suggestions to teachers" on accessioning, classification, cataloging, care of books, etc., and with an alphabetical list of headings to be used in making a dictionary catalog of the books listed. There are 699 titles in the list, which is classed and annotated and followed by an author and title index.

## Bibliography

ARABIA. Chauvin, V. *Bibliographie des ouvrages Arabes ou relatifs aux Arabes publiés dans l'Europe chrétienne de 1810 à 1885*. 9: Pierre Alphonse - Secundus - Recueils orientaux-Tables de Henning et de Mar-drus; Contes occidentaux; Les maquâmes. Liège, Vaillant-Carmanne, 1905. 136 p.

ART. Sepp, H. *Bibliographie der bayerischen kunstgeschichte bis ende 1905*. Strassburg, Heitz, 1906. 9+345 p. (Studien zur deutschen kunstgeschichte, Heft 67.) 25cm.

AUBIGNÉ. Bever, A. *Essai de bibliographie d'Agrippa d'Aubigné; suivi de cinq lettres inédites de Prosper Mérimée*. Extrait du Bulletin de la Société de l'Histoire du Protestantisme Français. (Mai-juin 1905.) Paris, Agence Gén. de la Société, 1905. 40 p. 25½cm.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REGISTER. v. 1, nos. 1-2, 1905-6. London, Williams & Norgate, 1905. Four nos. yearly.

BIBLIOGRAPHY. Bolletino bibliografico della università italiana. Anno 1, no. 1, 1<sup>o</sup> gennaio, 1906. Bologna, Zamorani e Albertazzi, 1906. 4 p. 3 lire per year.

— *Libro e idee: rivista bibliografia mensile*. Anno 1, no. 1, gennaio, 1906. Torino, tip. Economica, 1905. 32 p. 8", 3 lire per year.

BIRDS. Bird books. (In *A. L. A. Booklist*, April, 1906. 2: 113-144.)

An excellent and extended bibliography, prepared by Miss Caroline Garland, with the co-operation of many persons interested in the subject. A classed list; full entries, with annotations. Includes references on Bird day, lists of pictures, periodicals, and names and addresses of *Bird Lore's* advisory council, and secretaries of state Audubon societies.

BOOK PLATES. Budan, Comte Emile de. *Bibliographie des ex-libris*. 2e. éd., rev. et augmentée; avec 34 reprod. d'ex-libris. Leipzig, K. W. Hiersemann, 1906. 61 p.

CARTIER, Baxter. A memoir of Jacques Cartier, sieur de Limoilou, his voyages to the St. Lawrence: a bibliography and a facsimile of the manuscript of 1534, with annotations, etc. N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co., 1906. 9+464 p. 25cm.

Bibliography: p. 393-418.

CENSUS. U. S., *Census Office*. List of publications, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth censuses and permanent bureau. [Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1906.] 8 p. 21cm.

CERAMICS. Trenton (N. J.) Free Public Library. List of books on ceramics. Trenton, N. J., 1906.

An extended classed list, including much analytical work.

CHOTUSITZ, *Battle of*. Müller, Paul. Zur Schlacht bei Chotusitz. Berlin, 1905. 71 p. O.

Bibliography: p. 66-70; Berlin University thesis for Ph.D. degree.

CRANIOMETRY. Müller, F. W. A. E. Beiträge zur kranimetrie der Neu-Britannier. Berlin, 1905. 33 p. O.

Bibliography: p. 31-33; Berlin University thesis for Ph.D. degree.

ENGINEERING. Springfield (Mass.) City Library. Books on engineering and machinery, [1906.] 24 p. nar. S.

A compact, well selected classed list.

ENGLISH LITERATURE. Petri, A. Übersicht über die im Jahre 1900 auf dem gebiete der englischen philologie erschienenen bücher, schriften und aufsätze. Supplementheft zur "Anglia," 1902-03. Halle, 1906. 150 p. 24cm.

EPIGRAPHY. L'année épigraphique: revue des publications épigraphiques relatives à l'antiquité romaine (1905); par R. Cagnat et M. Besnier. Paris, Leroux, 1906. 74 p. 8°.

FRANCE. Répertoire méthodique de l'histoire moderne et contemporaine de la France; réd. sous la direction de Gaston Brière et Pierre Caron, et publié par la Société d'Histoire Moderne. Ann. 6, 1903. Paris, E. Cornély, 1905. 32+361 p.

FRENCH REVOLUTION. Sargent, G. H. The French Revolution and Napoleon in literature and caricature. [Greenwich, Ct.] Privately printed at the *Literary Collector* Press, 1906.

A descriptive article noting contemporaneous literature of the subject. Originally intended for publication in the *Literary Collector*.

GAMES. List of good games; with references to books containing descriptions of how to play them. (In Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh *Monthly Bulletin*, April, 1906, p. 230-241.)

HARPER, William Rainey. The *Biblical World* for March is devoted exclusively to memorials of the late William R. Harper. The number concludes with a five-page chronological bibliography (p. 248-252), by E. J. Goodspeed. About one-half of the list is devoted to books and the other half to articles Dr. Harper published in various periodicals.

HOLBERG, Ludvig. Deichmanske Bibliothek, Christiania. Katalog over Holberg-litteratur i det Deichmanske Bibliothek. Kristiania, 1906. 8°. [400 numbered copies.]

A classed bibliography, with full index appended. Carefully printed. It is not intended for free distribution, but will be sent postpaid to the United States and Canada for 65 cents.

ITALY. Gamurrini, G. F. Bibliografia dell'Italia antica. v. 1: parte generale. Arezzo, D. Racuzzi, 1905. 15+454 p.

ITALY. Schellhass, Karl. Italienische bibliographie 1904-5. (Separat-abdruck aus "Quellen und forschungen aus italienischen archiven und bibliotheken herausgegeben vom Koenigl. Preussischen Historischen Institut in Rom." Bd. VIII.) Roma, tip. Unione Cooperativa Editrice, 1905. 99 p. 8°.

LABOR. Schmidt, P. Bibliographie der arbeiterfrage für das jahr 1905; nach materien geordnet. Berlin, L. Simion, 1906. 102 p. (Beiheft zum *Arbeiterfreund*.)

LAW. Cruzado, Manuel. Bibliografia jurídica mexicana. Mexico, Tip. de la Oficina Impresora de Estampillas, 1905. 2 p. l., 385 p. 23½cm.

LIBRARY WORK: a bibliography and digest of current library literature. v. 1, no. 1, April 1906. Minneapolis, H. W. Wilson Co., [1906.] 32 p. O.

The first number of a periodical (frequency of issue not stated), "published as a means of bringing the work of the H. W. Wilson Co. to the attention of libraries" and sent free to librarians. The present number is a subject index or digest of articles in periodicals, books and pamphlets on library work appearing in 1905. Of the 285 entries 127 are of contributions to the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, and 90 of contributions to *Public Libraries*; the 68 remaining entries refer to the *Library World*, the various library commission bulletins, "A. L. A. tracts," etc. The annotations are frequently so full as to be practically abstracts. Prefaced by an illustrated account of the H. W. Wilson publishing house. A cumulated volume made up of the successive numbers of this publication is promised for the future, which will form "a handy reference book on library science."

McPIKE, Eugene F. A suggestion for an international bibliographic exchange. (*In Science*, April 6, 1906. 23: 547.)

Suggests that the various historical and scientific societies should collect information regarding special bibliographies in preparation, this information being later transmitted to the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress.

MANUSCRIPTS. Hara Prasād Sāstri, Mahamahopādhyāya. A catalogue of palm-leaf and selected paper mss. belonging to the Durbar Library, Nepal; [with] hist. introd. by C. Bendall. Calcutta, Baptist Mission Press, 1905. 2 p. l., xxxii, 32, [273], 23 p. fold. pl. 26cm. (Notices of Sanskrit ms. [Extra no.] )

MEMORIAL DAY. Chicago Public Library. Special bulletin no. 1 (rev. ed.): Memorial day, patriotism, the flag. Chicago Public Library, March, 1906. 16 p. O.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT. Brown, Charles H. List of titles on municipal government, with special reference to city charters and to local conditions in Chicago; prep. at the request of the City Club of Chicago for the Chicago Charter Convention. Chicago, City Club, March 1, 1906. 52 p. O.

A compact practical classed list, especially strong in city charters of leading American cities. Includes many analyticals, and for each entry there is indication of the Chicago library or libraries where the work cited is available. An author index is appended.

MUSIC. Universal-handbuch der musikliteratur aller zeiten und völker. Als nachschlagewerk und studienquelle der welt-musikliteratur eingerichtet u. hrsg. von F. Pazdirek. T. 1, Die gesamte, durch musikalienhandlungen noch beziehbare musikliteratur aller völker. bd. 4-6. Wien, Pazdirek, 1906.

ORIENTAL DRAMA. List of works in the New York Public Library relating to the Oriental drama. (*In New York Public Library Bulletin*, April, 1906. p. 251-256.)

Omits only Hebrew drama, which will follow in a special list. Native Sanscrit, Turkish, Persian, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Burmese, Hindoo and Bengalese dramas are included, as well as translations and related works.

PAPACY. Vergnes, A. La condition interna-

tionale de la Papauté. Toulouse, E. Privat, 1905. 3 p. l., [9]-235 p. 23½cm. Bibliographie: p. [9]-15.

RAILWAY RATES. Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library. The railway rate problem. Brooklyn Public Library, 1906. 24 p. D. Good classed and annotated reading list.

REFORMATION. Fisher, G. P. The Reformation. New and rev. ed. N. Y., Scribner, 1906. 20+525 p. 22cm.

A list of works on the Reformation: p. 475-502.

SANSKRIT DRAMA. Schuyler, M. A bibliography of the Sanskrit drama, with an introductory sketch of the dramatic literature of India. N. Y., Columbia University Press, 1906. 11+105 p. (Columbia University, Indo-Iranian series, v. 3.) 23cm.

SANSKRIT MANUSCRIPTS. Winternitz, Moriz, and Keith, A. B., comps. Catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts in the Bodleian Library. v. 2, begun by Moriz Winternitz; continued and completed by Arthur Berriedale Keith; with a preface by E. W. B. Nicholson. N. Y., Oxford University Press, 1905. 26+350 p. Q.

Vol. 1 was published 45 years ago, and the present volume records the additions made to the collection since that time. Preceding the catalog are an index of shelfmarks of mss., palaeographical index, and list of works cited. Then comes the catalog of the 766 mss. of Vedic and non-Vedic literature, an index, and addenda and corrigenda by Dr. Winternitz.

SERIALS. Josephson, Aksel G. S. A bibliography of union lists of serials. 2d ed. (*In John Crerar Library. Supplement to the list of serials in public libraries of Chicago and Evanston.* 2d ed. Chicago, 1906.) 28 p. O.

A revision and extension of the list first printed in the Proceedings of the American Library Association, Atlanta Conference, 1899. Rearranged geographically by countries and cities, with a chronological table and an alphabetical index of cities.

SOCIOLOGY. Bliss, W. D. P. A bibliography of economic and social subjects. (*In Social progress, an international year book.* 1906. p. 265-288.)

SWEDISH LITERATURE. Almquist, J. A. Sveriges bibliografiska litteratur förtecknad. D. 1. Egentlig bibliografi. Häft 2. Stockholm, P. A. Norstedt, 1905. 153-320 p.

### Notes and Queries

"THE FLOWER GARDEN."—"The flower garden," by Ida D. Bennett (Country home library), N. Y., McClure, Phillips & Co., 1905 (1903), is same as "The flower garden: a handbook of practical garden lore," by Ida D. Bennet. Ill., 1903. On title-page of 1903 edition author's name is spelt with one "t," while on cover two "t's" are used. A. L. A. cards follow title-page. Otherwise editions are identical.

PURD B. WRIGHT.

DISPOSITION OF FOUND ARTICLES.—I should be glad to learn what disposition is made elsewhere of articles of value found in library buildings. We often find jewelry, purses, etc. Of course, in most cases such articles are claimed, but occasionally we are unable to restore such property, even by advertising it in the newspapers. Is it customary to regard such property as belonging to the library after a certain length of time, and, if so, how long? By what method is such property sold for the benefit of the library?

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN,

*Librarian, Public Library, Washington, D. C.*

"CYCLOPAEDIA OF COMMON THINGS."—We wish to call attention to the fact that Sir George W. Cox's "Little cyclopædia of common things" (published by Sonnenschein and imported by the Macmillan Company) is the same, word for word, except for the omission of whole articles and of the colored plates, as Champlin's "Young folks' cyclopædia of common things." Cox's book was first published in 1882, according to Sonnenschein's "Best books." Champlin's was copyrighted in 1879.

ETHEL J. HEATH,

*In Charge of Reference Room, Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.*

BULLETINS ON BOOK BUYING.—Bulletins 22 (April), 23 (March), and 24 (May) have been issued by the A. L. A. committee on book buying. Bulletin 23 is devoted to the proposed clauses regarding importation of books by libraries, approved by the A. L. A. delegates and Executive Board. These clauses, given fully in April L. J., are summarized, and the committee says: "This section is now the official expression of the desires of the American Library Association, having been unanimously approved by the Executive Committee and also, though not unanimously, by the Council. It does not, of course, bind individuals or libraries in any way, or prevent them from taking such action as they may deem proper; but it is only fair to the delegates that no such action be taken without full knowledge of the circumstances under which they thought it best to urge the compromise that has now been approved by the Association." Bulletin 24 gives lists of 36 dealers issuing useful second hand and special catalogs, and 12 "lists of books helpful in purchasing books for small libraries."

VARIATIONS OF TYPE IN INDEXES AND BOOKLISTS.—I desire to protest against the growing custom of using different faces of type in headings or entry words of indexes and booklists. It is very common nowadays to employ full face type for authors' names, small caps for subject headings and lower case for titles. Many go so far as to print the author's name in black face even after the subject, or title. This seems to me particularly objectionable, first because it looks very badly, giving the page a spotted appearance, and, secondly, because it distracts the mind from the order of the entries which are usually alphabetical. In indexes to periodicals the author entries are usually least sought for; hence the black face is wasted on them. Again the great relative prominence of the black face is likely to lead one to think that the entries in caps or lower case between the several black face entries belong to the previous black face entry, instead of being independent entries. In my opinion the proper use of black face type is to catch the eye, and the earlier way of using it, as in the earlier volumes of the "American catalog," is decidedly commendable, and later departures from that usage are decidedly to be condemned.

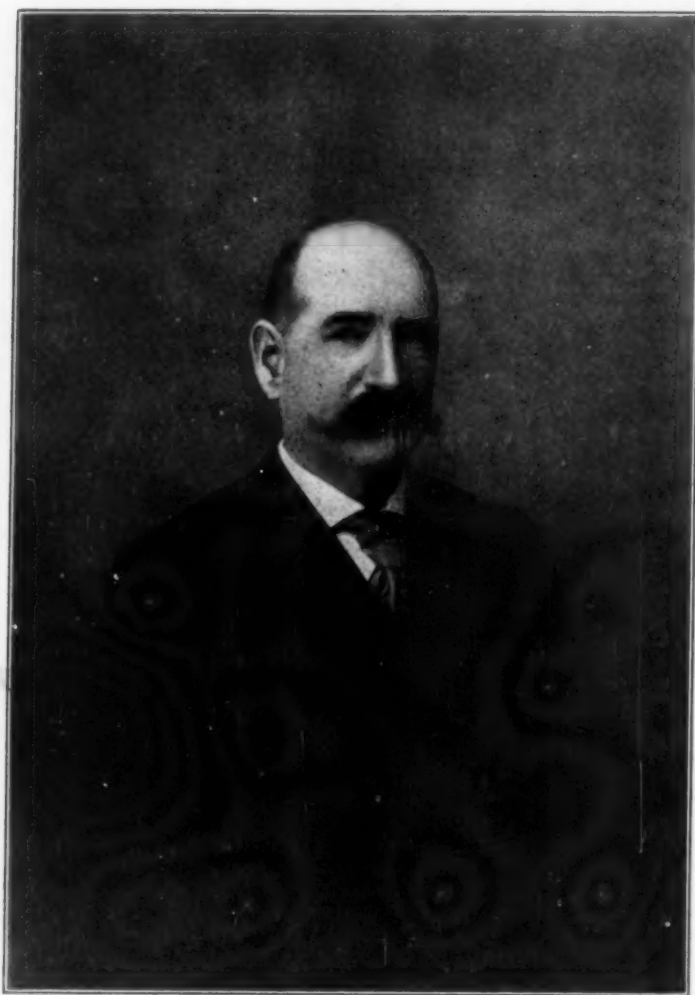
WILLIS K. STETSON.

"WISCONSIN IN THREE CENTURIES."—The New York Publishing Society (sometime the Century History Company, and the Publishing Society of Wisconsin) has recently issued a work in four volumes entitled "Wisconsin in three centuries." I have not yet seen the publication in its entirety, but am credibly informed that my name appears on the title-page thereof in the capacity of "chairman" of its "board of editors." My sole connection with this history is the fact that I wrote the brief introduction, purely as a matter of friendly courtesy to the author, Mr. Henry Colin Campbell, managing editor of the *Milwaukee Journal*, he having shown me the proof of his first volume, and his monographic work in connection with the Parkman Club publications being well and favorably known to me. This act of courtesy did not make me an "editor" of the work, much less the chairman of any so-called "board of editors" thereof. My several vigorous protests to the publishers against this unwarranted use of my name in the prospectus, proved unavailing; all that appears possible now to do is to request my fellow librarians not to catalog the work under my name. In justice to Mr. Campbell, who, I am glad to be able to say, has in no way been responsible for the peculiar methods of his publishers, the history should be credited to him, although from the subordinate manner in which his name is given on the title-page, this fact is not apparent to the cataloger.

REUBEN G. THWAITES,  
*Madison, Wis.*







FRANK PIERCE HILL, PRESIDENT AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, 1905-1906  
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